Daily Report

Latin America

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Reportage on Interparliamentary Union Conference

Dismayed by Haiti Coup

PY1010134891 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] The assembly of the Interparliamentary Union Conference has unanimously approved a resolution of support for and solidarity with Haitian democratic institutions. The draft resolution was presented by Chilean legislators attending the conference.

The resolution voices dismay with the coup in Haiti, which deposed President Jean-Bertrand Aristide on 30 September, and reaffirms the interparliamentarian community's support of the democratic system.

Condemns Worldwide Genocide

PY1010143491 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Excerpts] The 86th Interparliamentary Union Conference, gathering congressmen from throughout the world in Santiago, has harshly criticized the United Nations and the international community for their passiveness in the face of the veritable genocides that are being committed in various parts of our planet. The congressmen said that people are tired of this indifference. [passage omitted]

The congressmen noted that the solution necessarily involves the will of world leaders to create an international criminal court that will have the power to sanction those responsible for these events. [passage omitted]

The Interparliamentary Union is convinced that genocide must be punished wherever it is committed, and those responsible must be sanctioned. This is an imperative that the congressmen will raise in their respective countries and in international organizations.

Latin America Group Discusses Haiti

PY0910152491 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] The danger of another dictatorship being installed in Haiti is the main subject that will be discussed by congressmen of the region who this afternoon formed the Latin American Parliament. The meeting began as scheduled at 1800 today in Hall No. 5 of the Diego Portales building. It is being held within the framework of the 86th Interparliamentary Union Conference.

Regarding the subject that worries congressmen of the region the most, Deputy Carlos Dupre, one of the Chilean representatives at the Latin American Parliament, said it must be studied within this structure since it is a country that belongs to the region.

[Begin Dupre recording] The situation in Haiti will be analyzed in the Latin American Parliament, where I think it should be discussed. We must establish clear, effective solidarity at the Parliament so that the congresses of the region pressure their governments to isolate the Haitian dictatorship and to reestablish the state of law in Haiti. [end recording]

Another important subject that will be analyzed by the Latin American Parliament members today is Latin America's view of human development and economic growth within democracy. It is known that the countries of the region are requesting more positive, considerate treatment from industrialized countries and better opportunities for development.

Cuba Condemns Inequity, Subjugation

FL1010012391 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] Ernesto Suarez, secretary of the National Assembly of the People's Government, said during his speech at the 86th Inter-Parliamentary Conference in Chile that freedom in international relations is impossible so long as conditions of inequity and subjugation exist. Suarez said that Third World countries are immersed in a critical economic and social crisis, and face permanent instability and resentment among the masses. The Cuban delegate pointed out that many governments are burdened by voracious foreign debt creditors, and are pressured and besieged by international organizations that demand implementation of adjustment policies detrimental to the people.

During his speech, Suarez also said that Cuba travels a road saturated with difficulties. The solution requires discarding centuries of exploitation and backwardness, intensified over the past 30 years by the U.S. economic blockade and a systematic disinformation campaign. He added that during these years of hard work, we have radically altered the conditions of misery, unhealthiness, unemployment, and illiteracy that had characterized Cuba before 1959.

Study Groups Created at La Paz Antidrug Meeting

PY1010225291 La Paz Radio Fides Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] The objective of the fourth meeting of the heads of Latin American antidrug organizations, which is being held in Santa Cruz, is to promote cooperation among police organizations of the countries attending the meeting. (Michael Humes), a high-ranking UN official, said the countries that signed the Vienna Convention are complying with the recommendations issued at the last international meeting, which was held in Aruba.

Today the delegates at the meeting formed groups to address specific issues affecting each region. The first group will analyze the characteristics of drug traffickers' networks operating from South America and the methods they use to introduce drugs in international markets. Another group will address the laundering of drug trafficker's dollars and the economic activities

behind traffickers' gangs. The third group will analyze control of precursors that are used for producing cocaine.

The meeting, sponsored by the United Nations, will last until 12 October.

Within the framework of this meeting, a forum on journalism and drug trafficking will begin today. The forum will be attended by mass media professionals from the entire continent.

Brazil advocates the creation of special binational antidrug groups to operate on the Bolivian-Brazilian border. (Paulo Gustavo Magalhaes), head of the Brazilian Federal Police Narcotic Control Division, who is attending the meeting, said the creation of binational groups will mean a significant step forward. Thus far, he said, coordination and the exchange of information are generally good. Since January 1991, Brazil has improved control over the 5,000 km of border that it shares with cocaine-producing countries like Bolivia and Peru. Harsh blows have been dealt to drug traffickers—including the arrest of major traffickers and major seizures—since the enforcement of border control measures, the Brazilian policeman said.

Peruvian delegate (Victor Alba) said Bolivia and his country should improve coordination in the antidrug fight. Asked about the Repentance Decree that has for some months been in force in Bolivia, (Alba) said he does not believe that drug traffickers will actually repent, unless they are low-level traffickers.

Americas Network Participation Planned for 1992

PA0910040591 Mexico City XHTV Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] The Americas Network [La Cadena de las Americas] will link all Latin American countries, Spain, and Portugal by television from 1 April to 12 October 1992. Cuba has already formalized its participation. Enrique Roman Hernandez, president of the Cuban Institute of Radio and Television (ICRT), visited Mexico to sign the agreement.

The network is scheduled to transmit programs produced by each of its member countries five hours a day by satellite. The programs will be seen simultaneously in all participating countries. The purpose of this vast television network is to give the Ibero-American countries the opportunity to speak for themselves. The ICRT's president has said that the network is one of the best ways to contribute to Ibero-American integration.

[Begin Roman recording] I believe that television allows Ibero-American integration to forge ahead with a speed and an efficiency that otherwise would be very difficult to attain. I think this network will give us unprecedented possibilities—possibilities that will be even greater in future initiatives—to get to know one another and to strengthen an identity that we could lose. This identity links all Ibero-American peoples. [end recording]

Roman added that the Americas Network will encourage creativity.

[Begin Roman recording] We hope to use Cuban literature and culture to stimulate the efforts of not only our television producers but also of our scientists, historians, and sociologists to help make us better known abroad. [end recording]

Cuba

Police Arrest 12 'Dissidents' in Past 48 Hours

PA1110170391 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1542 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Text] Havana, 11 Oct (EFE)—Twelve activists from dissident organizations have been arrested by the Cuban Police in the last 48 hours in Havana, according to a note issued by the Cuban Commission on Human Rights and National Reconciliation (CDHRN), chaired by dissident Elizardo Sanchez.

The last person arrested today was Maria Celina Rodriguez, leader of the "Liberty and Faith" religious rights group, who was arrested along with her five-year-old son.

Six of the 12 arrested belong to the Association for the Defense of Political Rights (ADEPO), one belongs to the student "Mella's Followers,", four belong to the Free Art Association (APAL), and one belongs to "Liberty and Faith;"

Three of the dissidents arrested—Luis Alberto Pita Santos (ADEPO), Jorge Quintana (Mella's Followers), and Maria Celina Rodriguez (Liberty and Faith)—represent these organizations, which are grouped in the so-called "Cuban Democratic Convergence" (CDC), which appealed to the Cuban Government for political reforms on 7 October.

At a news conference attended by some 50 foreign journalists on 7 October, the "CDC" called for free elections on the island, the elimination of the Communist Party of Cuba as the country's ruling force, a multiparty system, and the establishment of a provisional government of transition.

Other proposals were the holding of a "national meeting" of all the Cuban social and political forces with the presence of reporters and observers "to consider national reconciliation and the gradual democratization of Cuba," a general amnesty for all political prisoners, and recognition of emigration.

The eight dissident organizations grouped in the CDC are the Association for the Defense of Political Rights, Alternative Criteria, Liberty and Faith, Harmony Movement, Human Rights Party, Opening of the Island Movement, the Cuban Human Rights Committee, and the National Reconciliation Committee.

Government Expels Three Spanish Journalists

LD1110084691 Madrid RNE-1 Radio Network in Spanish 2000 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Three Spanish journalists from the dailies EL PAIS, LA VANGUARDIA, and EL PERIODICO DE BARCELONA [name as heard] have been expelled from the island by the Cuban authorities. [passage omitted]

Proceedings of Fourth PCC Congress Reported

Castro Addresses Delegates

PA1010230991 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2105 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Havana, 10 Oct (NOTIMEX)—Cuban President Fidel Castro reiterated today that his country will continue with the socialist system and is ready to defend "the country in case of aggression."

Castro, who is also first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba (PCC), spoke for five hours at the Fourth PCC Congress in Santiago de Cuba.

Castro said that Cubans "will defend our country to the last corner," and urged the more than 1,600 delegates to reflect profoundly on the country's current situation and the course it must take.

The president of the Cuban Council of State and Ministers asked the communist delegates to set aside all formalities in this congress to foster the most adequate and freest conditions in the internal debate.

Castro spoke shortly after Estaban Lazo, PCC secretary of the Santiago de Cuba province, who inaugurated the top meeting of Cuban communists.

The Congress began its working sessions this morning in the eastern city of Santiago de Cuba, 970 km from Havana.

Esteban Lazo Opens Congress

FL1010201091 Havana Radio and Television Networks in Spanish 1302 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Speech by Politburo member Esteban Lazo Hernandez, Cuban Communist Party, PCC, secretary of the Santiago de Cuba Province, opening the Fourth Congress of the PCC, in the Heredia Theater in Santiago de Cuba—live]

[Text] The revolutionary struggle for independence, which began in Yara, after a glorious and bloody beginning, has lifted Cuba into a new period of war, by virtue of the resolutions and agreements of the revolutionary party, on the island and abroad, and the exemplary unification within the party of all the elements dedicated to the cleansing and emancipation of the country for the benefit of America and the world. With these words Marti and Gomez opened the Montecristi Manifesto to invoke in 1895, the inextinguishable war which was begun by Cespedes 27 years earlier with the sound of this same bell which has just inaugurated the work of our Fourth Congress. [applause]

It was this same Demajagua Bell, which during the time of the pseudo-republic had to be rescued from mockery, cheap politics, and opportunism by the efforts of the best exponents of our national dignity, among them a law student and leader of the Federation of University Students in that law school, Fidel Castro Ruz, who since then [applause] has taught us that a young nation can

never say: We give up. Those who on that 10 October, 1868, began to clear the long and difficult path toward the independence of the fatherland faced, with scarce resources, infinitely more powerful forces. But in spite of it, being the small group of forerunners who challenged the authority of the Spanish empire which had a grasp on the island, they were not frightened, not by the poverty, deprivation, or sacrifices of all kinds that they would have to endure for 10 years, because they were firmly convinced of the justice of their cause. They so believed in their people and in the future of the masses, then unredeemed, that they would be willing to wage a war, as Marti would put it, that would only end in victory or death.

This Fourth PCC Congress, held for the first time in the historic eastern region, and heroic Santiago, from where they proclaimed the call for the 112th anniversary of the Baragua Protest, which was read by the second secretary of our party, Army General Raul Castro Ruz, and scene of the Moncada attack, also brings to the grateful mind precisely the memories of that deed in which this same city and the old walls of its main fortress represented the honor of the fatherland when it seemed that the apostle [Marti] was going to die in the year of its centennial.

Like the titans of 1868 and 1895, like those who brightened their proletarian and patriotic efforts with the brilliant views of Karl Marx, the undying lesson given by Lenin and the October Revolution, as trustees of the national dignity and shame, the valiant fighters of the Moncada attack, as guardians of the struggle of the Cuban people, seemed as though they had undertaken to conquer the skies by assault, an unreachable dream, a beautiful utopia. The generation of the Moncada, like those who followed their steps, continued to fight indefatigably, inspired and commanded by the visionary brilliance and personal example of Fidel in the rebellious mountains and the clandestine valleys until the January dawn. They were not frightened by the power of the enemy nor the calamities and sufferings imposed by the enemy on their noble task because they also believed in their ideals, in their people, and in the future which they were shaping.

Today, 10 October, the 1,800 representatives of more than 600,000 party members and candidate members, elected from the over 46,000 precandidates, who were proposed by our grass roots-level organizations, are gathered together in this already historic Fourth Congress. We proclaim with these first words that we continue to believe in the ideas which have inspired and sustained our unyielding struggle. We maintain and will always treasure our unbowed flag, and we have full trust in the masses, in our people, and in our future. [applause]

In sum, we proclaim, as it is expressed with these images of Jose Marti, Karl Marx, and in those words of Fidel, who by the way presides over these sessions, that whatever happens, in spite of anyone, our most sacred duty today is—and will continue to be until the final victory—to save the fatherland, the revolution, and socialism. [applause]

On behalf of the eastern provinces, the people of Santiago, and especially of this city, which was rebellious in the past, is hospitable today, and will always be heroic, to the 1,667 delegates from all around the country who are present and to the 500 guests, we give a warm welcome and embrace you with a fraternal hug.

A large number of the delegates who represent the communists within our glorious Revolutionary Armed Forces and the Interior Ministry, including the Army chiefs, are not present because in their respective units, together with their comrades, the generals, chiefs, officers, sergeants, and soldiers, they are protecting our country's skies, coastline, and soil, so that the rest of us can work here with the tranquillity we get from knowing that they will be at their posts during the days that the congress is going on. [applause] Among those who are absent from this opening session—absences we greatly regret but at the same time understand because they are necessary for the defense of our country—are our beloved Comrade Raul Castro [applause] and our beloved Comrade Abelardo Colome Ibarra, our interior minister. [applause] At this very moment they are at their command posts, because our guard cannot be lowered for a single minute. However, we hope to see them among us at some time.

On behalf of the people of Santiago, please allow me to welcome, with special affection, the worthy representatives of the Cuban women within our party. With their presence as delegates, they encourage our work and make the stage of our congress more beautiful. [applause] We welcome the 167 founders and combatants of the rebel army and the clandestine struggle, who honor our ranks with their historic example and present conduct. Among them is our founder and guide, the first secretary of our party, our dearly beloved commander in chief, Fidel Castro. [applause] We welcome our internationalist combatants, who we are proud to say make up more than a third of the elected delegates. [applause]

A large number of our delegates, 50 percent of our delegates, are workers who are directly involved as workers or technicians in various agricultural, industrial, and construction activities. They are doctors, nurses, professors, and teachers; they are involved in important tasks in the area of services; they are researchers in the various branches of science; they are writers and artists. Also present among the delegates are the communists who fulfill the very complex and honorable tasks of revolutionary leadership within the state administration and the people's government, the Union of Young Communists, the Cuban Workers Federation, the labor unions, the National Association of Small Farmers, the Cuban Women's Federation, the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, the various social organizations, and within our own vanguard party.

Based on the fact that every sector of the economy performs an important and necessary task within our society and that all these sectors are represented at our congress, and because of the importance of these activities and their presence here, I wish to stress that almost 11 percent of the delegates represent the agricultural workers and 10 percent represent the construction workers, in particular the members of the new type of contingents that in the past few years have changed this decisive work front. Approximately 7 percent of the delegates represent our sugar workers, and a 3 percent—53 delegates—represent the strategic sector of scientific research.

It is also worth mentioning that over 55 percent of the delegates are university graduates and 60 percent are less than 45 years old.

Santiago de Cuba, the heroic city, has been worthy of the very high honor of hosting this congress, not only because of its history but because of the future it has been sowing in these years for the province and the entire country. This has been possible because of the unification of the increased efforts made by the people of Santiago with the assistance in solidarity of the national organizations committed to the various programs and the fraternal support of other territories.

In this way, it was possible to give a significant boost in this last stage between the Third and Fourth PCC Congresses to the important investment program the country has been carrying out in Santiago. The territory's investment program totals over 1.5 billion pesos. In fact, these have been years of renewed efforts inspired by the process of rectification of mistakes and negative tendencies. This is true in our particular case, because of the incentive of being worthy of hosting this congress, and above all, because of the encouragement, the support, and motivation we have received from Fidel and Raul at all times. [applause]

I would not dare to overwhelm you with figures and statistics which you may already know about through the media. I would like to highlight the satisfaction we feel in seeing how the work of the revolution has grown in Santiago with over 20,000 projects, which include over 16,600 housing units. Santiago de Cuba construction workers, who make up our current nine contingents, have risen to the occasion during these times. A sound base for the materials industry has been developed. Roads such as the one south of the Sierra Maestra and the city's beltway have been built, among other things. Important maritime and railroad projects have also been built. They have made it possible to have access to the boundaries with Holguin Province with double railway lines.

As part of the economic strategy outlined by the country's leadership, Santiago is becoming an important tourist town. Among the important projects are the new hotels and other expansion projects with room for over 1,000 international tourists. The renewal of water-works projects has been seen in the building of dams, mini-dams, pipelines, pumping stations, channels, and a significant increase in the areas with irrigation and plot drainage systems.

The numerous industrial projects include some as important as the used oil recycling plant, the expansion and modernization of the Hermanos Diaz Refinery, the torula plant and refinery at the Julio Antonio Mella Agroindustrial Complex, the Cano Complex, the factories for the production of medical equipment, parenteral serum, industrial gases, cans, and phosphorus, among others. As is being done throughout the country, we have given special emphasis to the development of the food program, in which we must stress the 11 integrated pig farms, increased poultry production, the establishment of cattle farms in an attempt to double our current milk production, the hydraulic, food, and aquiculture works, as well as the whole plan aimed at increasing the number of vegetable and root products that include, together with Santiago's great efforts to become self-sufficient, the projects in the fraternal province of Ciego de Avila for consumption in Santiago. It is true that the results are still far from covering our needs, but these are plans, that despite the limitations brought on by the current situation, will mature slowly and create, within our real possibilities, the basis for future solutions.

The overall idea of the Turquin Plan improves the standard of living of our impregnable mountainous area. The primary goal of this province is to recover and promote coffee production. This task has been placed in the vigorous hands of the Youth Labor Army, along with the increase and better use of the work force available in our mountains. We are satisfactorily promoting the forestry work and reforestation. The Manati Plan is strongly supported by the people. We are also working hard on the sugar plan. Social projects, especially for health care, have reached truly impressive levels. We have large hospital centers and more than 800 family doctor offices that provide those services which are needed in our mountains. The educational, cultural, scientific, and technical development of the area has provided us with the manpower needed to join the country's research plans.

The recent Pan American Games, for which Santiago was the secondary site, also contributed to promote works that are important for sports and education. In the final stretch toward this happy moment, we were able to finish with speed, quality, and beauty, works as important as the first phase in the construction of the General Hospital that will have more than 1,000 new beds, the Santiago Tropicana Cabaret, our Santiago Hotel—the first five-star hotel in the country—the landing strip and air terminal for the Antonio Maceo International Airport, this Heredia Theater, which is the pride of the people of Santiago and which was inaugurated with this historic event, as well as the Antonio Maceo Square and its monuments that we will be inaugurating in the closing events of this congress.

I would like to stress that these projects and the ones built for the Pan-American Games represent about 10 percent of the investments made during this stage, although the ones that are usually referred to as the congress projects really represent the efforts made to honor the most important meeting of the Cuban Communists and include everything that has been done, not only the material results but also—and I would say above all—the political results, the increased discipline and revolutionary awareness of our people. As proof of this, I should note that in the midst of the intense productive and social activities carried out, at no time was the sacred duty of defending and preserving the work neglected.

Santiago, like the rest of the territories in the country, was also able to fulfill the requirements needed to receive the status of ready for defense in the first stage. I must add that such efforts and results took place within the framework of the difficult times imposed by international circumstances and other adverse factors that are beyond our control, to the point where we had to implement the measures to face a special period in peacetime and prepare ourselves to resist by all means and continue the efforts to develop in strategic sectors even under the conditions of limitations and much more serious and severe difficulties than the current ones. Precisely, the challenge we, the people of Santiago, now face is to know how to and be able to exploit this large volume of investments in the middle of the difficult situation we now face.

To all the reasons the people of Santiago have to feel proud of our land and, above all, of being Cubans and communists, we could add that what a great honor it means, during these crucial moments of our history, that it is precisely here—in the town where the Maceos were born; in the city of the Bronze Titan [Antonio Maceo]; of Frank and Jose Pais; of Pepito Tey; Sonia Lomas; Otto Parellada; and so many heroes and martyrs of all of our fierce fights for independence, national sovereignty, social justice, and our internationalist traditions and principles—the fact that it is here, in our Santiago, where this Fourth Congress will raise the Baragua flag to the top of Turquino Peak. [applause]

The Fourth Congress of our party is therefore declared open. This is the congress of the party which follows the teachings of Marti, Marx, and Lenin, the party of the entire Cuban nation, the party that is the soul of the revolution, the PCC, the party of Fidel. Socialism or death! Fatherland or death! We will win! [crowd joins in; applauds]

Religious Joining Party Discussed

FL1110134191 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Text] Yesterday at 1700, the second seating of the Fourth Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Congress began with the analysis of a draft resolution of the party statutes. The possibility of religious believers becoming members of the party was discussed by most of the speakers, including the commander in chief. Although some delegates expressed doubts and concerns over the controversial matter, the prevailing consensus supported the idea of religious people being able to join the party.

The delegates also spoke about the need to strengthen the exemplary and leading role of party members, especially during these crucial times the revolution is experiencing.

Today at 0900, the Fourth PCC Congress will reconvene its sessions and the delegates will continue analyzing the aforementioned draft resolution.

Delegates Honor Martyrs

FL1010174391 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1405 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] During a solemn ceremony charged with emotion and patriotism, delegates to the Fourth Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Congress have placed flower wreaths on the graves of those who died in the fight for independence buried at the Santa Efigenia Cemetery.

The Jose Marti mausoleum, the mural of national martyrs, the mausoleum of those who died in defense of the country, the tomb of Carlos Manuel de Cespedes, and 19 other graves of those who died in the war of liberation were honored by the delegates.

Vilma Espin, alternate member of the PCC Politburo and delegate to this great Congress, noted that it is especially significant that the first action of the congress was to honor the martyrs. Pioneers from Santiago de Cuba gave highlights of the lives of those buried in the 19 tombs on which flowers were placed.

Havana Commentary on Fourth PCC Congress

PA1010185291 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 1400 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Commentary by Roberto Morejon]

[Text] Delegates to the Fourth Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], which began on 10 October, will pay special attention to the process of rectifying errors and negative economic tendencies. This process was initiated at the end of 1985, when the negative consequences of imitating foreign models became evident.

Cuban entrepreneurs and officials idealized the Soviet experience, especially in planning and directing the economy. They stopped the island's growth by unreservedly adopting that experience.

In the past few years, the Cuban Government and party have been implementing programs to improve efficiency and to eliminate bureaucracy and badly adopted concepts without forsaking the socialist philosophy or centralized planning. The rectification process was aimed at easing the negative consequences of the introduction of

mechanisms that encouraged material profits and imitated capitalist methods without producing an increase in production or efficiency.

During the past five-year period, emphasis was also placed on giving more importance to political and ideologic work, because this work was underrated in the first half of the 1980's. The Cuban political project, which is not free of imperfections, was reoriented toward clearer socialist objectives. Ideological values regained primary importance; it was insisted that the habit of importing almost everything were harmful; and the struggle against waste gained ground.

The Cubans have recently learned the importance of depending on their own resources and of adjusting socialism to the true situation and idiosyncrasies of the people on an island burdened by underdevelopment and the U.S. blockade. Investments in social work grew, voluntary work after regular working hours began to play the same vital role that it played at the beginning of the revolution, and the country began to secure more achievements with fewer resources.

The Fourth PCC Congress will analyze how to continue with the rectification process, even under critical circumstances such as last year, when construction projects had to be stopped because of commercial difficulties with the Soviet Union and the halt of supplies from Eastern Europe.

Assembly Official Predicts 'No Political Changes'

PA1010020391 Paris AFP in Spanish 0118 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] Santiago, 8 Oct (AFP)—Ernesto Suarez Mendez, secretary of the [Cuban] National Assembly of the People's Government, told AFP on 8 October that "Cuba's political situation is normal. It is just as it has been since the triumph of the revolution, and no political changes are foreseen in the island."

Suarez Mendez, who heads his country's delegation participating in the 86th conference of the Interparliamentary Union in Santiago, Chile, stressed that "our people's achievements are better than those of many Third World countries. We can almost compete with some developed nations in areas such as health, education, and social security."

He said that the Communist Party of Cuba congress will begin on 10 October "to continue strengthening our line and to continue defending the achievements and advancements that have been possible thanks to the socialist society our people have built since 1958."

Suarez Mendez added that "we will find out what our deficiencies are in order to eliminate them; we will hear our people's ideas on ways to improve our system, but we will continue our development in the same direction."

"Democratic institutions exist in our country thanks to the revolution. We believe that the points being discussed at this international conference can contribute greatly to world peace," Suarez Mendez concluded.

Justice Ministry Official on Drug Seizures

FL1110012591 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Text] Cuban Vice Minister of Justice Amado Gustin said today in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, that Cuba is rigorously fulfilling its responsibilities in the fight against drugs, in spite of the fact that drugs are not produced, trafficked, or consumed in Cuba. In a report to the fourth meeting of Latin American and Caribbean drug control agencies, Gustin stated that this year Cuban authorities had seized about 600 kg of marijuana and more than 400 kg of cocaine that had been dropped into the ocean from drug traffickers' planes.

Authorities Announce Cuts in TV Programming

PA0610184191 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1656 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Report by Gerardo Gonzalez Vega]

[Text] Havana, 4 October (EFE)—According to a communique issued on 4 October by the Cuban Television Directorate, the general rationing of goods and services that the Cuban people are experiencing will be extended on 5 October to include television programming.

The communique, published on page four of "GRANMA", the official voice of the Cuban Communist Party (PCC), states that it is part of "an improvement process in Cuban state television programming." Whatever the case, the "improvement" is taking place when the country is experiencing "heavy restrictions on energy resources and other items." This was acknowledged by the communique of the Television Directorate.

According to the text of the communique, the programming cuts are taking place following "a very serious analysis that was meant to protect television viewers from more drastic measures. This does not mean that we are not obligated to resort to new modifications and restrictions if necessary."

In announcing the measures, Cuban television cited changes in audience behavior, the need for reserves to maintain its programming, and the need to increase national production in order to replace imported programs. The cost of the imported programs in foreign currency has made them too expensive when the present Cuban economic crisis is taken into account.

Currently, Spanish productions such as "Brigada Central," "El Lute," and "Gallego" occupy the first place in the Cuban television programming. These three programs are televised on prime time.

Cuban television has not specified the real extent of its programming cuts, which are scheduled to begin on 5 October. Attempts by EFE to obtain an explanation from the appropriate authorities were in vain since they were participating in a "meeting" today during the morning hours.

Cutbacks in television programming are taking place after a succession of endless cutbacks affecting all aspects of Cuban everyday life. These cutbacks have been taking place one after the other since 1990 when the Soviet Union, Cuba's main benefactor at the time, decided to reduce its exports.

The first goods and services to be rationed were fuel for industrial and transportation uses, gasoline for private consumption, and electricity. Clothing, shoes, food, domestic goods, medication, tobacco, and newspapers were soon added to the list. Practically no product or service has escaped rationing. Since the triumph of the revolution, rationing has been traditional, but it had never reached the current levels.

The Cuban Government, in enforcing the restrictions, has emphasized the various benefits they will have for the Cuban people. For example, the reason given for rationing tobacco is that smoking is harmful. It is said that medications are being rationed in order to control consumption. As for bread rationing, it is reportedly to ensure that all Cubans will get their respective rations and to avoid hoarding by black market speculators.

Castro Sends Greetings' to Paraguay's Rodriguez

PY0310223991 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish 3 Oct 91 p 9

[Text] Taking advantage of a brief meeting between the Cuban revolutionary leader and the Paraguayan delegate to the 4th Meeting of Ministers of Culture in Havana, Cuban President Fidel Castro sent cordial greetings to Paraguayan President Andres Rodriguez.

Olinda Massare de Kostianovsky stated that Castro spoke to her about the two times he met the Paraguayan chief of state. Kostianovsky said: "He told me that he met the president on two occasions and sent him (President Rodriguez) cordial greetings." She added: "Castro said he has very nice memories of Rodriguez."

Castro Attends Reception at PRC Embassy

FL01'0120091 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has attended a reception held at the Embassy of the PRC on the occasion of its national holiday. Fidel was greeted by PRC Ambassador Chen Juichang and Politburo and Central Committee members, government ministers, and members of the diplomatic corps.

Today, the PRC celebrates the 42d anniversary of the victory of its revolution. Culture, arts, media, and other sectors representatives were also present.

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez Meets French Deputies

FL2809021091 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Today, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, met with French deputies Michel Crepeu and Claude Gerard Marcus on the third day of their visit to Cuba. The Cuban vice president gave a detailed explanation of the main preparations for the Fourth Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba. The present difficulties faced by socialism and the peculiarities of the system in Cuba were focused on during the meeting.

This evening, the visitors inaugurated the French Language Center at the Martires de Giron polytechnic school in Havana.

Sixto Batista Closes CDR Anniversay Ceremony

FL2709214191 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Today, 27 September, CDR [Committee for the Defense of the Revolution] members in neighborhoods across the country are awaiting another CDR anniversary. Yesterday, the main national ceremony was held in Holguin and Sixto Batista, national coordinator of the mass organization presided.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] [Crowd chants: "Viva, viva"] The main national ceremony marking the 31st CDR foundation anniversary was transformed into a huge public demonstration. Thousands of Holguin residents gathered at Major General Calixto Garcia Plaza in a complete expression of support for the revolution, the party, and our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro.

As part of this commemoration, Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], government, and CDR leaders, Revolutionary Armed Forces, and Ministry of the Interior officials, PCC congress delegates from Holguin, Central Committee members, and nominees placed flower wreaths at the general of the three wars mausoleum.

A group of CDR members was given the 28 September award, and pins commemorating the 31st anniversary of the CDR, 20 Years of Revolutionary Vigilance. A special award was given to the most distinguished blood donors. General Sixto Batista Santana, alternate Politburo member and national coordinator of the CDR's, closed the ceremony this afternoon.

[Batista] Dear CDR members, there are 14 days remaining to the Fourth PCC Congress and the CDR organization will be there with all its goals completed, with more than 400,000 blood donations. Is there a more

humanitarian work? With more than 70,000 glass bottles, more than 5,000 tons of paper and cardboard, and more than 400 tons of aluminum collected. Our efforts mean a great savings for the country. We would have had to spend almost $25,000 if we would have had to purchase and import these raw materials. This is the work of our organization. [end recording]

Pedro Ross Praises Workers' Salvage Repairs

FL0510120391 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Text] Pedro Ross, secretary general of the Cuban Workers Federation, has praised workers in their efforts to salvage a number of pieces of equipment manufactured in capitalist countries. These efforts are taking place at the central repair shop of the oil pipeline and tanks construction enterprise under the Ministry of Basic Industry in Havana.

The Politburo member also affirmed, while meeting with the workers, that this is another demonstration of how to defend the revolution by working with what we have and of our determination to resist the brutal Yankee embargo under the conditions of the special period. The general repairs made to the equipment were valued at $1,500,000.

Specialists Analyzes Economic Issues

FL2709161091 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Sep 91

[From the "Our Own Voice" segment of the "Exclusivo" program with host Lazaro Barredo, with guests Jose Luis Rodriguez, economist and university professor, and Dario Machado, sociologist and researcher—live]

[Text] [Barredo] Hello friends. Lazaro Barredo here on "Our Own Voice" continuing with the subject of an analysis of the Fourth Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Congress. As announced last Saturday, the Radio Rebelde Editorial Board approved our proposal, and we have with us here two experts that we have invited to join us today. They are Comrades Jose Luis Rodriguez, an economist and university professor, and Dario Machado, a sociologist and researcher.

Last Saturday we were analyzing economic issues. After analyzing that subject, I was still left with two concerns. Jose Luis spoke of the U.S. campaign talking about the biased Soviet-Cuban economic relations because of subsidies. I think, Jose Luis, that it would be helpful for our radio listeners if we talked a little more about this subject, especially keeping in mind that this is the major campaign being waged at this time against the Cuban revolution, including the Bush administration's efforts to pressure the Soviet Union. Above all, we should keep in mind that contrary to what has been said, there has always been mutual recognition that the trade relations between Cuba and the Soviet Union are mutually advantageous relations for both countries. So in this second program, I would ask you to talk about, to explain, the same idea as you did on our last program.

[Rodriguez] Yes, in fact this has been an aspect, or I could say the aspect, that the campaigns against Cuba have focused on the most lately. These campaigns try to present Cuba as a country with a subsidized economy, in the sense that the economy is incapable of generating development on its own. As a component of this interpretation, the other facet of Cuba's relations with the Soviet Union is ignored; that is, that in addition to the benefits and aid Cuba has received, we must also mention the benefits that the Soviet Union has received from these relations.

I think that with regard to this point and based on very concrete figures, there are objective economic reasons that have favored this trade. I would even go so far as to say that trade favorable to the Soviet Union could be foreseen for the future. For example, in the case of sugar, Cuba has been supplying approximately 30 percent of the sugar that the Soviet Union has consumed in the past few years at prices that, even though they were set at preferential levels up to 1990 in accordance with the price indexing formula that the two countries agreed on in 1976, have nevertheless been lower than the cost of producing sugar from sugar beets in the Soviet Union.

According to figures provided by an international organization specializing in basic products, in this case (Landen Mills), they say that the average domestic sugar production cost for the Soviet Union between 1975 and 1987 was 43 cents per pound, while the Soviet Union paid Cuba 41.92 cents per pound of sugar during this same period. I repeat that this figure was not calculated by a Cuban source but by an international organization.

Two other basic products we export to the Soviet Union have also made significant contributions, these being citrus fruit, which represents or has represented to date 40 percent of Soviet demand, and nickel, which has represented 20 percent of Soviet demand. In both cases, Soviet sources have acknowledged that it costs less to buy them from Cuba—according to numerous factors that have been used in this analysis— it costs less, I repeat, than to obtain nickel, for example, from deposits in the USSR. This is also valid for higher-technology products, such as those related to biotechnology which Cuba has begun to export to the Soviet Union and which have become a commodity with an acceptable level of competitiveness.

Let me just mention that according to Soviet sources the agreement signed for 1991 covers payments of between $730 and $800 million, depending on how it is figured, for the purchase of this type of products from Cuba. If Cuban deliveries as a whole to the Soviet Union were calculated at the 1991 world market rate, there would be around $3 billion that the Soviet Union would have to pay to purchase products on the world market, while through the trade mechanisms agreed on with Cuba—barter agreements for trade, payment through a clearing

system, etc.—it is much more advantageous to get products this way from our country.

I think these are weighty factors, important considerations, which should not be forgotten when analyzing the nature of Cuban relations with the Soviet Union. These factors thus strip the analyses of the unilaterality that is seen when they are examined by other countries, in order to present this as a subsidized economy; that is, as trade that is beneficial in only one direction.

[Barredo] I am going to ask you to clarify something because I understand that in the last intergovernmental agreement... [changes thought] of course, these are not the real prices of sugar, nor is there any absolute privileged position with respect to Cuba, because I believe that the prices set at the Lome Convention have prevailed. These are the prices which the EEC pays. These prices are lower than the subsidies which the United States grants to its domestic sugar growers.

[Rodriguez] Yes, I was really saying that what we call preferential prices, which we mentioned before, were paid up until 1990. In 1991 the world market prices were used as a point of reference for trade. According to Soviet sources, the ongoing price that Cuba has been paid has been approximately $550 per ton, which is about 25 cents per pound. This means that even though this is a better price than what the world market would pay, it is still in line with the prices set by the Lome Convention or the preferential prices which the United States pays to its clients; in other words, this is within the normal practice of the world market. We need to remember that what the so-called sugar world market sells is only 14 to 17 percent of the sugar that is sold in the world.

[Barredo] The rest is governed by agreements.

[Rodriguez] The rest is governed by agreements.

[Barredo] Exactly. Jose Luis, let me ask you a question. In our previous program we had mentioned that one of the things claimed about Cuba is its rigidity and its economic stagnation. I think we need to discuss this further because, well, in Cuba a lot has been said—it was one of the issues discussed at the Guadalajara summit—on how the country has done lately with the idea of working abroad in market economies while still respecting our planned economy as a matter of independence and social equality. We believe our system of property and multilateral economic development which the country has conducted in years past as part of the rectification process is just and correct. I believe it is important to explain some of these ideas to our listeners.

[Rodriguez] Yes, well, it would have to be only a few points. First of all, I think that the discussion of this subject abroad has been handled in a very sketchy and, I would even say, ill-intentioned manner. For example, what has characterized the Cuban economy these past years is not its inflexibility. On the contrary, it has attempted to find new procedures within the state economy. It bears repeating that we have tried different experiments to find more effective forms of management. In the construction sector, for example, we began by creating contingents. This is an administrative measure that includes a strong call to political mobilization and morale incentives. In addition, the members of those contingents were given special attention and rewards in line with the results of their work. The managerial experiments conducted by the Minfar [Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces] have also yielded very positive results by implementing a formula, from what we have been able to see, that has made self-sufficiency efforts more flexible and compatible with work conditions found in Cuba.

Joint enterprises have been created over the years. This is well known abroad. It is no secret that since 1982 Law-Decree No. 50 has been in existence in Cuba, this decree regulates foreign investments in Cuba. This is one management measure that is being developed primarily in the tourism sector but it has recently been expanded to other sectors. A new proposal was presented at the Guadalajara summit to implement preferential treatment for Latin American investors for this kind of joint investment in Cuba. This plan would allow foreign capital participation to exceed 51 percent of the investment in some cases. The 1982 decree included this alternative only as an exception.

We have other forms of operations. For example, again in the tourism sector, what we call state management methods exist at the National Institute of Tourism which coexists with corporations such as the Cubanacan Corporation, which operates under a corporate managerial structure. It is regulated by the Cuban state but under a flexible kind of management. I do not think this is an example of inflexibility.

[Barredo] Let me ask you the following: One of the things that is used to attack the Cuban revolution... [changes thought] all this while we are in the midst of this economic blockade situation, when you can see the consequences of the disaster, etc. It is now when there is an opening to the outside world. The accusations against the revolution are that we are selling the country. What we are establishing is a universal practice. The only difference is we have a very peculiar model—as you say—of defending our national sovereignty and of not surrendering the resources of the country. It seems to me that an attempt is being made to distort everything new that the country can do in this direction. I do not know...

[Rodriguez, interrupting] I think this is perfectly clear. The regulations that control foreign investment in our country have never placed us in a position of having to hand over the country's resources to foreign capital, as happens in other countries. What happens here is that there is participation of foreign capital in the search for technology, markets, and to complement national investment. This is being done without the country losing control of the means of basic production, including those sectors which have been chosen to accommodate foreign

investment. This is not done in all sectors of the national economy but just where it is approproate, where this type of investment is necessary for development. I mean, this is not incompatible with a planned, centrally-directed economy.

[Barredo] I would note the willingness to integrate with Latin America in our immediate geo-cultural region. It also means the search for this kind of economic collaboration. This willingness to integrate is part of the revolution's work. It also contributes to its soundness. It seems to me that this is perfectly compatible, not only domestically, but also with its relations abroad.

[Rodriguez] Undoubtedly. It favors integration in line with our situation and the possibilities and advantages that Latin America could have by joining Cuba.

[Barredo] Well, there is a matter I would like to broach which would complement the previous analysis. I believe that one of the merits ... [changes thought] history will, at some future time, have to note how the Cuban revolution has been able to withstand the blows of this entire situation throughout these years. I believe that the common denominator of the lesson... [changes thought] luckily our process did the contrary. In all of these countries there were parties, organizations, and armies. There was even consumerism. Nevertheless, the common denominator was that the contact with the people, with the masses, was lost. The masses lost confidence in socialism. I do not believe it was because of a deficiency in the system but because of an inadequate implementation of ideas.

I believe that we have continued making many mistakes in the rectification process from the political standpoint for not challenging our work. As I said last Saturday, we made the mistake of not finding work methods and styles, new ideas, that were beyond the ideas of individuals or of a single person. I believe that the talent of our party, which has never lost contact with the masses, made it possible to maintain national unity and not give way to opportunism, the counterrevolution, the supporters of Sanjon, and as we have seen recently, anti-communism, which today is furiously spreading throughout many of these countries. I do not know. I would like to discuss this subject in the few minutes we have left. I would like to hear some of your views on this, Dario Machado.

[Machado] Lazaro, I would like to express some ideas on the subject. In the previous program we talked about the revolution's positive results and how those positive results enabled us to take precautions. The fact that the revolution's social project has had achievements does not mean that mistakes have not been made and it does not mean that the project does not need changes, that it does not need perfecting. What happened was that the Cuban people, the masses, have always felt as though they were playing the leading role in the process. That leading role of the masses, who ultimately are the ones who carry out the changes, the ones who make history, is strengthened because the policy of the party reflects this.

Let us cite the example we mentioned in the previous program. That is the discussion of the call to the Fourth Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba. Many important plans of the revolution have always been discussed. They have always been analyzed with the people. This has happened not only at the time when a task is going to be carried out but at the time of exchanging ideas to reach a decision, at a time to talk about a subject that pertains to us all. This is when the people have options.

Of course, this takes place in various forums, in different political activities in our country but this happened particularly during the debate of the call for the Fourth PCC Congress. I believe that it clearly shows this intention. I said in the previous program that the debate was a virtual plebiscite for socialism, a virtual plebiscite for the single-party system which we characterize as based on the principles of Marti, the Cuban nation, Marx, and Lenin. It was a virtual plebiscite in favor of the idea of building socialism.

This does not mean that the debate was one to reaffirm the positions of the revolution alone. It was also an analytical debate. It was a critical debate. In an assessment we made at the beginning of the debates, out of the approximatcly 100,000 suggestions made, 87 percent were constructive criticisms. That is, things that we need to overcome, matters that we have to fix, to enhance. Therefore, it is also a participation with a mind of its own. I believe this, the real possibility of participation helps greatly in achieving unity. Being not only at the receiving end but also a protagonist of an idea from the beginning through its implementation helps greatly.

The fact that Cubans understand the irreplaceable value of unity in order to develop the social project of the revolution is one of its fundamental generators. Right now, we are at the threshold of the Fourth PCC Congress. In the previous program we said that the maturity of the rectification process coincided with the special period circumstances. This congress will undoubtedly be a congress to reaffirm the socialist course of the revolution. It is also going to be a congress of resistance to the growing difficulties and once faced with the need to find new ways of international economic relations, new markets, to adapt our productions to these circumstances. It also has to be the congress of priorities of economic development. This has strategic value. Our ability to consolidate the country's economy depends on them so that we can channel it following the programs planned by the party and currently being developed. We need to get stronger economically and use all resources—which Jose Luis talked about so accurately—to develop ourselves. It will also be the congress of the defense of the revolution. It will be the congress of continuity, of the transformations of the rectification process in line with the particular circumstances we are currently experiencing.

I would say that, in my view, this will be basic characteristics that the congress is going to have. The people are going to be protagonists. They have been participants from the beginning. This is why in the previous program I referred to the idea that the congress already began in 1990 when the debates to the call for the congress began. This is so not only because of the debates but also because many of the suggestions made by the people began to be acted upon, began to be solved early on. It is not that the congress is going to be a magic wand, that it is going to solve everything. I believe that the congress is an important milestone in the development of the revolution, especially in the development of the rectification process. It will have to respond to the formulas that the continuity of our rectification process should have and to the particular conditions of the situation we are experiencing.

[Barredo] I also asked the question because I once read an article written by you, Jose Luis, regarding the rectification ability the Cuban revolution has had throughout its history. You mentioned that it was never a process that was driven by the high levels of leadership, but that it was a popular process beginning with the call to form the party.

[Rodriguez] Following the ideas presented by Dario, I believe that the Cuban revolution has shown in practice that it needs to be assessed as a whole. The building of socialism is not a solely economic, political, or social task. It is the combination of those three elements. They have to be rearranged during each historic moment. They have to be placed in line with the needs of the development of the country. I believe that the strength our revolution has reached is directly linked to being able to know at each historic moment to figure out where to make changes, which factors needed to be reviewed, which elements had to be changed in the economy, in social development, etc.

If we look at how the rectification process began we can see that there are economic elements but that there were also social elements. Finally, we could say that there have been political changes. Let us remember the agreements made by the PCC Central Committee Plenum before the call to the congress when it was said that the time had come to perfect the political structure of the Cuban society.

[Barredo] Exactly. There are only a few minutes left. I only wanted to add one thing. I believe, Dario, that the congress will also strengthen the idea of fighting against negligence, social indiscipline and against the problems of lenient expectations. In this regard, I believe it is going to involve great discussions.

My idea is to begin next Saturday with the list of subjects, not really the list of subjects, but with some ideas that I believe may be aimed at the democratic improvement, in the much more democratic opening the party intends to carry out as part of all these ideas it has been developing in its work styles and methods. I believe this might be a good subject to begin to think about the next program. I hope that you can accompany me.

[Rodriguez] With pleasure.

[Barredo] Friends, I invite you then to join us on Saturday in the analysis of this important subject during "Our Own Voice."

Dominican Republic

Balaguer Refutes Aristide Charges on Coup Role

FL1110153491 Santo Domingo Cadena de Noticias in Spanish 0930 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Excerpts] President Joaquin Balaguer has refuted the accusations of deposed Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. The head of state called Aristide's accusations that the Dominican Republic was used by the Tonton Macoute leaders to finance the military coup as trash. Visibly irritated, President Balaguer said that the Aristide comments were garbage and did not merit a reply.

At the same time, he said that he found it strange that he was asked if he would recognize the de facto government of Haiti. [passage omitted] He confirmed that the Dominican Republic has signed a series of agreements which rejects the coup. [passage omitted]

Haiti

Senate Denounces OAS Mission, Embargo Decision

FL1110003891 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1840 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Excerpts] The Senate of the Republic and the crisis committee oppose the OAS decision to send a civil mission to support and enforce constitutional democracy in Haiti. The Senate of the Republic and the Crisis Committee oppose this OAS mission under Article 139 of the Constitution.

In a news conference this morning, the Senate denounces this decision as a maneuver for civil, foreign occupation of the country and for placing it under foreign trusteeship. The Senate also opposes this OAS resolution on the basis of Article 8.1 of the Constitution. [passage omitted] Senate President Dejean Belizaire asks the OAS to review its decision to initiate a commercial embargo against Haiti. Senator Dejean Belizaire advises that negotiations will be held with the OAS to inform the organization about the Haitian reality.

[Begin Belizaire recording] We were apprised of the embargo the OAS has decided to impose against Haiti. I believe this decision is unfavorable to Haitian democracy. We are therefore asking OAS to reconsider this strategy. [end recording]

We recall that the United States had hoped to quickly dispatch a civil mission of OAS to Haiti in an effort to

restore democracy. White House Spokesman Marlin Fitzwater stated: We believe that a civil mission from the OAS can greatly contribute to the establishment of a more peaceful climate, assuring human rights for all Haitians. He added that the OAS would be invited to return to Haiti very soon to pursue negotiations leading to the reestablishment of democracy in Haiti. The OAS had already decided to reject any government that would replace the Aristide administration. Fitzwater also stated that American citizens living in Haiti are not threatened and no decision was made to evacuate those citizens. [passage omitted]

Political Leader Reacts to Embargo

FL1110031191 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 2011 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Interview with Joachin Pierre, second in command of the Haitian Christian Democratic Party, PDCH, in Port-au-Prince on 10 October, following his meeting with the provisional president—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Begin recording] [Pierre] What held our interest was the legalist spirit of the provisional president. He briefly described his personality, his career, and his respect for the law and the Constitution. He raised two particular points, that there is a lot to do and very little time. The immediate priorities are the formation of a cabinet to run current state affairs and to develop the means of holding elections within the framework of the Constitution. This means within 90 days, as provided for in Article 149 of the Constitution. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Who was suggested by the political leaders and what are the criteria for selecting cabinet members?

[Pierre] No one was suggested. Each political leader received an application form, however, for listing those individuals each party would recommend as cabinet members, along with a curriculum vitae so that the strength of each candidate can be evaluated in various areas. We have the forms; we will fill them out and return them to the appropriate authorities.

[Reporter] How do you see the future of democracy in Haiti?

[Pierre] We feel very confident, very confident. [words indistinct] Things must change, because the masses as well as the political leaders want change. The masses desire change. I think those who are going to ensure the transition must maintain a patriotic feeling after witnessing what took place. They must strive to take Haiti out of the muddle it is in. We have many opponents on the international level. We are aware of this. Poor little Haiti! We do not know how to treat you anymore. We do not know what is in their minds when they [foreign countries] negotiate with us. [passage omitted]

I suggest that international opinion review its position to consider that Haiti is part of the hemisphere just as the countries of the continent are. Haiti deserves as much consideration as the others, without considering one person or another, who was president or not. It is necessary to consider the problems of the Haitian people first; Haiti first. What will be the consequences? Who do they hope to please by cutting our petroleum supply? If someone is truly interested in Haiti, I believe the problems of the Haitian people should be their first priority. All interest should be concentrated on the welfare of the nation. Cutting aid is certainly not showing concern for the people. To love this country is first to show interest in the people. [passage omitted]

Exiled Duvalier Calls For Reconciliation

AU1110085491 Paris AFP in English 0107 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Text] Paris, Oct 11 (AFP)—Former Haitian dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier on Thursday called for reconciliation among his countrymen, in an appeal issued from his exile in France.

In a statement handed to AFP by his lawyers, he said he watched "with sadness the continuation of tensions which weigh on Haiti" both from inside the country and without.

Haiti had in the past been able to resist "all foreign interference," he said, expressing concern for "internal clashes which repeat themselves like clockwork" and were directed against "yesterday's governments."

Duvalier said such conflicts were "criminal and suicidal" for Haiti and called for "reconciliation, a true national unity, without which Haiti has absolutely no hope for recovery or even survival."

A political heir to his father, Francois Duvalier, he became president for life of the Caribbean nation but was overthrown in a coup in 1986 and fled to the south of France, where he continues to live in exile.

Port-au-Prince Residents Resume Daily Activities

PA1110013891 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1846 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 10 Oct (EFE)—Ten days after the military coup against Jean-Bertrand Aristide, Haiti's constitutional President, residents of that Caribbean country's capital city, Port-au-Prince, are returning to the streets.

Dozens of people are selling a variety of products at the main market in the capital, even though dozens of soldiers toting rifles still patrol the streets.

Vehicle circulation has also increased considerably in Port-au-Prince, where efforts are under way to return things to "normal" amid the political crisis the country is experiencing following the military coup headed by General Raoul Cedras.

During a tour of the eastern area of Haiti, up to the border with the Dominican Republic, residents of many towns appeared to be leading normal lives, although there is virtually no traffic.

EFE was able to confirm that the customs office established at the border between Haiti and Dominican Republic is functioning normally.

On 10 October, a few airplanes landed at the Port-au-Prince International Airport.

Nevertheless, Haitian Government employees have not returned to their jobs, even though they have been ordered to do so, and public schools remain closed.

Meanwhile, Provisional President Joseph Nerette, who was imposed by the military and appointed on 8 October by a a group of Haitian legislators who attended a session at the Legislative Palace, has not yet been able to form a government.

Radio Nationale Report

FL1010213391 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Now that the public peace has returned, the military patrols have become more discreet. They are not seen in the streets as frequently as before. Haitians living in the poorest neighborhoods are attempting to resume their usual activities after the disastrous events that left 200 dead and several hundred wounded. Public transportation drivers have resumed their regular schedules. Yesterday was an ordinary morning. [passage indistinct] A portion of the stores have reopened their doors. The banks have returned to an almost normal operating schedule. After their first essential purchases, housekeepers, cooks, and so on preferred not to go out in the afternoon. Many foreign journalists have already begun to leave the country.

Provisional President Meets With Party Leaders

FL1110010291 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 2011 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] The Haitian provisional president will receive the five most important political leaders in the country today.

Provisional President Joseph Nerette was scheduled to receive five of Haiti's most influential political leaders today at 1600 GMT in the National Palace, according to AFP. The leaders are Louis Dejoie from the National Agricultural and Industrial Party, Marc Bazin from the Movement for the Establishment of Democracy in Haiti, Victor Benoit from the National Congress of Democratic Movements, Serge Gilles from the National Progressive Revolutionary Party of Haiti, and Rene Theodore of the Unified Party of Haitian Communists.

These leaders were to discuss the formation of a provisional government, and the current political situation in the country within a national and international context.

Political Parties React to Current Situation

FL1010211591 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Several political parties have reacted to the crisis that the country is now facing. The Assembly of Progressive National Democrats urges all people in all sectors to unite in rescuing the country from its current deadlock. RDNP, the party of former Haitian president, Professor Leslie Manigat, opposes any interference in internal affairs by foreign countries, denouncing such attempts as violations of the fundamental clauses of the UN and OAS Charters.

National Agricultural and Industrial Party President Louis Dejoie II expressed the opinion that the Haitian parliament, the senators and deputies, were obliged to find a solution to the crisis, adding that this solution had to be peculiar to the Haitian people. He asserted that, in this sense, he was against military intervention in the country.

The late Sylvio C. Claude's Haitian Christian Democratic Party thinks it necessary for all sectors to find a joint solution to the country's problems in the wake of the coup staged by the Haitian Armed Forces, which put an end to the dictatorship that was developing. It also cites reproaches against former Haitian president, Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide, as commendation to the Army for the action it staged.

The Alliance for the Liberation and Progress of Haiti, headed by former Senator Reynold Georges, agrees with the positions of those political parties opposed to foreign intervention as a solution to the problems of the country. It says the military action was intended to expunge the disdainful policy to which all the institutions were subjected.

That is, broadly, the reactions of the political parties to the ongoing crisis in Haiti.

Nerette Begins Consultations on Elections

FL1010182091 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Provisional President Joseph Nerette, who is a lawyer, has initiated consultations to examine ways to establish a provisional government which will cooperate with him in the organization of elections. These consultations do not appear easy. According to the Constitution, the elections should be held on 30 December.

Jamaica

Suspension of Air, Sea Links to Haiti Proposed

FL0910165991 Bridgetown CANA in English 1446 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Oct 9, CANA—Jamaica is proposing an immediate suspension of air and sea links with Haiti as international pressure mounts on the country's military leaders for the reinstatement of constitutional government under deposed President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

Prime Minister Michael Manley told reporters Tuesday, hours after holding talks with Aristide, that he would press for this suspension except in purely humanitarian cases. He said Jamaica repudiated the "military terrorism" of the Haitian Army, referring to the decision of soldiers to force parliamentarians at gunpoint to choose an acting president.

Opposition leader Edward Seaga, however, expressed caution in siding with Aristide. Seaga referrred to statements attributed to Aristide which he said "leave us to wonder whether he is any different quality to the present and past leadership of Haiti, renowned for their special brand of tyrannical dictarorship." In a statement to the media, Seaga said Aristide appeared to advocate violence in a public speech on September 27, in which he was reported to have said that "people who don't agree with me, we should burn them," and in which he made reference to the "dreaded necklace," a method of killing by placing a burning tyre around the neck of the victim. Seaga also referred to reports that Aristide had set up a private militia called the SSP [Presidential Security Service].

"Any action by the international community, including Jamaica, should therefore emphasise isolation of Haiti by severing diplomatic relations and curtailing trade and aid flows as a start, while other diplomatic initiatives are pursued to restore democratic rule," Seaga said.

Manley who later left for Zimbabwe to attend the Commonwealth summit, said the question of military intervention in Haiti so far was not on the agenda.

Belize

Ambassador Gives Address at United Nations

FL0910164691 Bridgetown CANA in English 1137 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] United Nations, Oct 9, CANA—Now that Guatemala has recognized Belize's independence after a decade of resistance, peace seems at hand in El Salvador and the cold war is ended, Cuba and the United States should settle their differences, according to Belize's United Nations ambassador, Carl Rogers. Rogers told the UN that the resolution of the problems facing Cuba and the U.S. should come "through peaceful negotiations."

Rogers, a former deputy prime minister of Belize, made the suggestion while delivering his country's annual foreign policy statement to the UN General Assembly. The ambassador said that the decision by the new civilian government of Guatemala to recognize Belize and the establishment of full diplomatic relations between the two Central American states would usher in a new era of cooperation, mutual respect, and dignity.

"The decision of my government to adopt maritime legislation which extends our terroritorial sea to 12 miles while maintaining the existing three mile territorial sea in the southern waters of Belize removes a source of potential friction and guarantees Guatemala's access to the Caribbean," he explained.

He called the recent events a "major step" for peace and stability in the region while creating a climate for "more development and economic advancement by the two countries.

"Belize is now able to take its rightful place as a Caribbean nation in Central America," he said. Guatemala has a long-standing claim to Belize.

As other Caribbean officials had done in their statements to the 46th session of the General Assembly, Rogers said his country was backing the decision of the Organization of American States to isolate the military junta which seized power in Haiti last week by ousting President Jean Bertrand Aristide. Belize, said the ambassador, wanted economic and military aid to Haiti suspended and commercial and diplomatic links cut until there was full restoration of democracy in the country.

Turning to other issues, Rogers suggested there should be a greater effort to reduce the incidence of infant mortality.

"Let us intensify our efforts and devote our energies to eradicate hunger and social evils that threaten the family unit and the survival of future generations," he said.

"Let us resolve to improve the quality of their lives and totally eliminate all forms of discrimination against women, the mothers of our children."

Ministers Explain Proposed Maritime Bill

FL1010151291 Bridgetown CANA in English 1422 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Belize City, Belize, Oct 10, CANA—Hundreds of people in western Belize turned out this week to hear senior government and opposition politicians explain current negotiations with neighbouring Guatemala. A bipartisan commission made up of Prime Minister George Price, Foreign Affairs Minister Said Musa and opposition United Democratic Party leader Manuel Esquival faced questions at the culture centre in the town of San Ignacio.

The main purpose of the meeting was to explain the Maritime Areas Bill, currently before the House of Representatives. The bill seeks to extend Belize's territorial waters to 12 miles for most of the coastline but restrict the limit to three miles near the southern border with Guatemala.

Musa told the meeting that with the full agreement of the opposition the decision to define the sea boundaries in this way was based on the desire to settle a territorial dispute with Guatemala. He said it was based on the belief that Belize will be able to keep all its current land boundaries and cayes but fishing rights beyond the territorial sea were still being negotiated.

Esquivel said in the negotiations Belize should insist that fishermen should continue to be able to fish in traditional areas beyond the three mile limit.

"I have learnt that Guatemala is already enforcing the three mile limit down on the southern coast and it is causing some worry on the part of fishermen in that area," Esquivel remarked. He said he thought it was action being taken by the Guatemalan military and not on the direct orders of the government from Guatemala City.

"I would hope that we have made representation to the government of Guatemala, if this is indeed happening, because I would consider it an unfriendly thing for them to be doing at a time when we are trying our best to reach a solution with them," he said.

Musa said he had heard an unofficial report about a Guatemalan vessel being seen. "I can tell you than when I attended the emergency OAS (Organisation of American States) meeting in Washington a few day ago I mentioned this to the vice foreign minister of Guatemala and he promised to look into the matter," said Musa.

Another issue brought up at the San Ignacio meeting was the future of the 1,500 strong British garrison in Belize. Prime Minister Price said he would be talking about it to British Prime Minister John Major at the Commonwealth conference in Zimbabwe.

"It is a possibility that they may leave Belize or would reduce their forces here. But we are doing everything for them to stay with us even at a reduced level," said Price.

Esquivel said the British forces should remain, given the facts that democratic government in Guatemala is still not totally established and the presence of the garrison contributed several million dollars to the Belize economy.

El Salvador

Peace Commission Installed in Mexico City

PA1110034091 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2129 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Oct (DPA)—Representatives of the Salvadoran Government, the guerrillas, and the political parties today in Mexico installed the National Commission for the Consolidation of Peace (Copaz), in compliance with the New York Agreement, which was signed last month between the opposing parties of that country.

The commission is composed of Interior Minister Colonel Juan Martinez Varela; Col. Mauricio Vargas, Armed Forces deputy chief of staff; and Commanders Joaquin Villalobos and Francisco Jovel, representing the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN).

The secretary generals of the six political parties that are represented in the National Assembly (parliament) of El Salvador are also members of this new organization.

The actual composition of the commission will have a temporary character until it is formally legalized by the Assembly. Such legalization will take place once the cease-fire agreement between the FMLN and the government of President Alfredo Cristiani has been signed, in accordance with the New York Agreement, which was signed on 25 September at UN headquarters.

After the installation of the commission in a ceremony held in a Mexico City hotel, Villalobos described the move as "a very important" and "highly positive sign," and he ratified the willingness of the guerrillas to attain peace before the end of the year.

Villalobos stated that with the installation of Copaz, the Salvadorans are "on the brink of entering a new phase in history so that El Salvador can become a new country, a new republic, with democracy in the next century."

Meanwhile, Martinez Varela expressed the government's willingness to look for and find solutions that "will take us to the consolidation of peace in El Salvador," an objective that he described as the main concern of the Cristiani administration since it came to power.

According to the New York Agreement, Copaz will be basically tasked with supervising compliance with all the political agreements made between the government and the guerrillas, although it will not have the authority to implement the aforementioned agreements.

The installation of Copaz took place within the framework of a three-day meeting in Mexico between leaders of the government, the FMLN, and the Salvadoran political parties, prior to the new round of negotiations that the two opposing parties will hold, also in Mexico, beginning 12 October.

Cristiani on Forming Copaz

PA1010182391 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Report by Ernesto Rivas]

[Text] President Alfredo Cristiani said on 9 October that until the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] signs a final agreement to end the war, it will be an illegal group. The FMLN, therefore, cannot move about freely within the country. According to the president, this has been taken into account at the negotiating table. He denied that the problems in forming the Copaz [National Commission for Consolidation of Peace] are the result of government provocation.

President Cristiani rejected all speculation that mentions setbacks in the dialogue process as a result of not forming Copaz. He specifically denied that the FMLN is being provoked because it is not allowed to enter the country, as the Permanent Committee for the National Debate [CPDN] reported a few hours ago.

[Begin Cristiani recording] If the CPDN took the trouble to read and interpret the agreements that are already in force—especially the Geneva Agreement—it would see that the main point of contention in the conflict is the FMLN rejoining the country's political, civil, and institutional life. The CPDN should read a short phrase that specifies: within a fully legal framework. This means that until a final agreement to end the conflict is reached, the FMLN is a group outside the law. [end recording]

The president expects substantial headway to be made at the 12 October meeting. However, he said that if this were not the case, this does not mean bogged down negotiations or a setback, because dialogue is an ongoing affair and will continue until the conflict ends.

[Begin Cristiani recording] We start out with the point of view that the Salvadoran people do not want a simple truce. They want a definite end to the armed conflict, and that is the goal we seek. Following the New York Agreement, both the FMLN and we have come to realize that these obstacles that made a definite solution to the conflict unpredictable have been overcome. The light at the end of the tunnel is now a little brighter, so we believe that a progressive or informal cease-fire could start. This would lead us where all of us want to go—to a definite end to the conflict. [end recording]

Cristiani announced at the same news conference that two government delegates will travel to Mexico on 10 October to participate in a meeting between political leaders and the FMLN. Cristiani said that it is considered a preparatory meeting for forming Copaz.

Defense Minister Not Optimistic

PA1110015291 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] The defense minister does not believe there will be a cease-fire agreement reached during the next round of talks.

A cease-fire would depend on the will of each of the parties involved during the talks, said Rene Emilio Ponce, defense and public security minister, on the morning of 9 October. Ponce showed his lack of optimism for attaining a cease-fire.

[Begin recording] [Ponce] If I were optimistic, I would say yes; but we must be realistic. I absolutely believe that there will be many advances in that direction. I cannot say if a cease-fire will be signed, but that is the will of the government and I hope it is achieved.

[Unidentified reporter] [Words indistinct]

[Ponce] We must define the two stages of Copaz [National Commission for Consolidation of Peace]. There is a preparation stage, which will start in Mexico on 10 October, and there is the formal operation stage, after the cease-fire. That is how we interpret the New York agreements.

For this preparation stage, which will take place in Mexico, we are taking advantage of the presence of Colonel Vargas in the next round of conversations; he will represent the Army at the meeting in Mexico that will begin on 10 October.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]

[Ponce] I cannot predict whether it is going to be him or not. He is a member of the Government Dialogue Commission and cannot be involved in other completely different activities. We must appoint another person. [end recording]

Regarding the possibility of a truce, Ponce said that it would be a good issue to discuss to decrease the level of violence. However, he did not give total support to that kind of agreement.

He said the Army has had no reservations with regard to the resolutions agreed upon in New York and will, therefore, remain subordinate to the government.

[Begin recording] [Ponce] The government presented to the UN secretary general a proposal for decreasing the level of violence in the country. I believe that would be a appropriate issue for discussion at this meeting in Mexico to get the violence to disappear little by little.

However, we definitely do not believe in truces and we hope that there is an agreement to decrease the level of violence in the country to put us on the path toward a definitive cease-fire [words indistinct].

The basic difference is that if we talk of a truce, we are talking strictly about military action, but we want to deal with what the Salvadoran people need. We want no more violations of rights, no more blackouts, and no more attacks on the economy, as has been the case. All these are violations of human rights and of the San Jose Agreements [words indistinct] coffee processing plant in Usulutan Department. [Words indistinct] the (Atahuapa) coffee processing plant in San Vicente Department and this does not contribute to an atmosphere of peace. Instead, all acts of violence against the civilian population should be suspended.

[Reporter] Some people believe that the Armed Forces have [words indistinct] the New York Agreements as [words indistinct] for the armed conflict. Are there any reservations about the agreement?

[Ponce] No. We have no reservations about the agreement. We are an obedient institution [words indistinct]. We have reached an agreement and have acquired a political commitment in New York. We seriously support the agreements and believe that it was a good step that may take us to peace in the country.

[Reporter] With regard to the possible arrival of two members of the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] to form part of Copaz, is that still not viable here in El Salvador?

[Ponce] I believe that several opinions have already been stated in that regard and the legal sector of the country must decide on their presence here in El Salvador again. However, I believe that for obvious reasons it is more convenient that this takes place when there is a cease-fire agreement, so that they can enter the country. [end recording]

On another topic, Ponce ruled out the possibility that the Defense Ministry would pay the bail of the four soldiers who were absolved by 4th Penal Judge Ricardo Zamora in the Jesuit case. General Ponce did not comment on the sentence issued on the morning of 9 October in Sonsonate Department absolving 13 members of paramilitary groups accused of murdering 29 peasants between 1981 and 1985.

I do not want to question the conscience of court because they have the right to issue any sentence they want, he said.

Pacas Confident of Resumption of International Aid

PA1110050691 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Report by Maria Teresa Fajardo]

[Text] Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Pacas stated today that clear signals that the international community will resume economic assistance have become apparent in recent weeks. Months ago, some nations suspended aid to El Salvador because of certain social unrest, including

the murders of the Jesuit priests. This attitude is changing due to recent developments, the official indicated, adding that Spanish Government may provide economic aid to establish a civil national police. The Salvadoran Government will make a formal request in a few days to that effect.

[Begin recording] [Pacas] I am pleased to announce that in general terms the international community has viewed positively the fact that justice was done in the Jesuit case. As you understand, people react differently to a verdict. However, we clearly stated that the Salvadoran people, represented by those five members of the jury, gave their verdict. That is a reality, whether one likes it or not. That is the result of justice, and we believe that is how the international community regarded this.

As I stated, some countries that had temporarily suspended their economic cooperation have given us very clear signals that they are also ready to resume it. In the German parliament, for example, Social Democratic and Liberal legislators have asked their government to resume economic cooperation with this country. The international community also feels that the Salvadoran Government's efforts to bring peace to the country and consolidate it require increased aid.

For that reason, I want to point out the visit by the German Foreign Ministry's director for Latin America. He came and visited different government officials, such as President Alfredo Cristiani and me, and told us that his government is willing to resume economic cooperation in a short time.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Pacas] The international community, chiefly the Spanish Government, has indicated that it accepts the decision of the Salvadoran people, represented in the jury. With that obstacle behind us, I think that Spain will be ready to provide bilateral cooperation, as well as a member of the EEC. The Spanish ambassador visited me this morning, and we talked about the possibility of support in very specific areas, for example, the assistance the Spanish Government can provide to us for the national civil police. We also discussed [words indistinct] state security organizations. These are very positive aspects worth mentioning. [end recording]

On another matter, Pacas said our country will support any decision the OAS makes with regard to the situation in Haiti, following the coup. He made those remarks after he presided over an official ceremony, whereby the Israeli Government is increasing its agricultural and cultural aid to El Salvador.

Guerrillas Said To Lay Mines Near Honduras

PA1010195091 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1210 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Official Salvadoran sources have reported that Salvadoran guerrillas have mined a strip of land at the border with Honduras, in one of six areas that have been under territorial dispute since the 19th century.

The mined zone ranges from La Virtud to Valladolid in the disputed area of Taralapa, an area controlled by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN]. The sources said that the area was also mined by Salvadoran troops during the so-called 100-hour war with the Honduran Army in July 1969. It has been said that not all of these explosive devices were defused, and that Salvadoran guerrillas merely planted more mines to deter the presence of Salvadoran government forces. The situation has even prevented the delimitation of this border region located in Lempira Department in the western part of the country.

The sources consulted said that the FMLN also controls the Cayaguanca disputed area, and that the rebels frequently move back and forth to Honduran territory. No clashes have yet been reported with the local army, however. One Honduran Army officer has criticized the occupation of the areas in dispute, adding that sovereignty over them is to be determined at the International Court of Justice.

Honduran soldiers, however, usually enter unmined sections of the Balalata disputed area to ensure the protection of Honduran civilians living there, according to unofficial sources. The area seems to be controlled by the Honduran Army during the day and by the guerrillas at night without any clashes so far between the two sides, a UN observer in Guabita commented.

Commentary on Peace Talks in Mexico City

PA1110054191 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] It has been 11 years since various generations of Salvadorans took up our weapons and we are now on our way to our objective of toppling one of the most criminal dictatorships in all Latin America. This is the profound historic message behind the negotiations promoted by the people and the National Army for Democracy [END]. The foundation has been set on which political and economic democracy will be built for all Salvadorans, without distinction.

The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] will arrive at the negotiations in Mexico with this conviction. It will arrive with the objective of making the cease-fire a victory of civilian society over militarism, which has taken the lives of over 100,000 compatriots in just the last few years, including the FMLN's soldiers and fighters.

We are going to the meeting in Mexico intending to reach important final agreements that will make way for the cease-fire and the immediate implementation of all agreements, particularly those referring to the Armed Forces and the socioeconomic situation.

Regardless of the dynamics of the meeting, the FMLN reaffirms its willingness to make way for a cease-fire that will gradually stop the escalation of the war, thus eliminating the obstacles to the implementation of the agreements, which in turn will conclude with a final cease-fire.

Today, however, General Emilio Ponce also reiterated his intention to continue the war by supporting and sending more elite battalions. To this, of course, we will give a stunning response. We will defend the agreements, the people's achievements, and our territories with our weapons, because they are the guarantors of the new democratic and pluralist national order.

This is why the National Commission for Consolidation of Peace must be installed immediately and take possession of its rights and duties before the 12 October meeting, so it will have a bearing on the substantial agreements that will be reached at the meetings between the government and the FMLN. The cease-fire will then be the irreversible product of a broad national consensus, which will guarantee the broad commitments made by the Salvadoran political forces and make way for an irreversible peace.

With the cease-fire, in the same way the Berlin Wall crumbled, the cracked wall of impunity and militarism in El Salvador will also crumble and fall, and the military will never again overcome the civilian power of the Salvadoran nation.

Roundup of FMLN Military Activities

PA0910025791

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports from various media on fighting between Salvadoran Army troops and rebels from the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN.

(Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 30 September carries eight minutes of reports. The first report says that at 0800 on 28 September, heavy clashes took place between END, National Army for Democracy, forces and units from the Prant Invincible Battalion from the DEMIFA, Armed Forces Engineers' Military Detachment on the coastal road near the village of (El Ujuste), Tecoluca Jurisdiction, San Vicente Department. "The Prant Battalion sustained 16 casualties," the FMLN claims.

Another report from Radio Farabundo Marti states that on 26 September members of the National Guard and the Atlacatl Battalion clashed with guerrilla units for four hours on a stretch of the northern junction road between Guazapan and Aguilares. "Twelve casualties were inflicted, three on the National Guard and nine on the Atlacatl Battalion," the station claims.

The station continues by reporting that seven casualties were inflicted on the 6th Infantry Brigade troops on 27 September during a successful ambush in El Salto, located on the road between Villa El Triunfo and Santiago de Maria, Usulutan Department.

(Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 30 September carries five minutes of reports. The first report says that a two-hour clash took place between guerrillas and 2d Infantry Brigade troops in La Aldea, San Jose Guayabal Jurisdiction at 1500 on 27 September. "Nine casualties were inflicted on the Army troops. We recovered two M-16 rifles, three knapsacks, a Claymore mine, and two complete sets of equipment," the station adds.

A report from Chalatenango states that END units inflicted 16 casualties on Army troops in two successful ambushes on 29 September. "Six casualties were inflicted when a patrol was ambushed on the road between Tejutla and Salitre at 0700. 4th Infantry Brigade troops were ambushed near the detour to (Amayo), near (Soyate) Bridge; there were 10 casualties," the FMLN claims.

(Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 1 October carries five minutes of reports. The frist report states that on 30 September, Atlacatl Battalion troops sustained 15 casualties after a successful guerrilla ambush on a Atlacatl Battalion company in (Eliscanal Creek), located in Los Ramirez, San Jose Guayabal Jurisdiction, Cuscatlan Department. The FMLN claims to have recovered "three M-16 rifles, 10 grenades, seven knapsacks, and other war materiel."

Another report states that at 0830 on 30 September, END units ambushed a 4th Infantry Brigade company on the road between San Rafael and Tablon. "Five casualties were inflicted on the Army troops," according to Radio Farabundo Marti. FMLN snipers fired at 4th Infantry Brigade troops in El Barrancon, northern junction road and inflicted one casualty.

The station reports that five more casualties were inflicted on 30 September when END units placed mines on the path of the Soriano Battalion from the 1st Infantry Brigade in (Los Tiquillos), Guazapa Jurisdiction.

The last report on this newscast states that at 0700 on 29 September, END units clashed with troops from Military Detachment No. 5 in the area of El Pepeto, Tenancingo, Cuscatlan Department. "One casualty was inflicted on the Army troops," the station claims.

(Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 1 October carries six minutes of reports. The first report says that on 30 September END units ambushed a 4th Infantry Brigade company on the road from San Rafael to El Paraiso in Chalatenango. "We inflicted five casualties on the Army," the report claims.

Another report states that Lempa Battalion troops entered FMLN- controlled areas in the area of San Francisco Javier on 29 September. "As a result of clashes

with FMLN rebels that lasted all morning, there were three Army casualties," the FMLN reports.

END units attacked two Atonal Battalion companies in the area of Las Marias, Jucuapa Jurisdiction at 0900 on 29 September. "The Atonal Battalion sustained eight casualties," the report states.

(Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 2 October carries four minutes of reports. The first report states that END units ambushed a 4th Infantry Brigade patrol on the northern junction between the detour to (Amayo) and Coyolito, Tejutla Jurisdiction at 0615 on 1 October. "Five casualties were inflicted on the enemy," the FMLN claims.

Another report adds that a similar ambush was conducted against a military truck carrying 2d Infantry Brigade troops on the highway between Santa Ana and San Salvador at 0850 on 1 October. "Seven casualties were inflicted on the enemy," the station reports.

A report from San Miguel Department states that on 1 October, END units clashed with Ponce Battalion troops near El Jicarito and San Rafael in Lolotique, San Miguel Department at 1400 on 1 October. "Two casualties were inflicted on the enemy," the station says.

San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish at 0300 GMT on 2 October carries a one-minute report saying that Coprefa, Armed Forces Press Committee, confirmed the killing of Second Lieutenant Jaime Antonio Jimenez and two soldiers during an FMLN attack against Atlacatl Battalion positions in San Jose Guayabal. "Coprefa also reported that 1st Infantry Brigade soldiers found the bodies of 2d Sergeant Julio Eduardo Sanchez and an unidentified soldier, who were killed in clashes with rebels in San Jose Guayabal on 27 September."

(Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 3 October carries six minutes of reports. The first says that at 0600 on 2 October END units clashed with Arce Battalion troops on Gigante Hill, Perquin. "Three casualties were inflicted on the enemy," Venceremos reports.

Another report adds that END units clashed with Duenas Linares Battalion troops from the 4th Infantry Brigade in El Barrancon, Tejutla Jurisdiction. "The enemy sustained two casualties during the clashes, which took place at noon on 1 October," Venceremos claims. At 0215 on 2 October, END units attacked troops from the same battalion stationed in El Barrancon, on the northern junction road. "Eight casualties were inflicted on the enemy," the station adds.

(Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 4 October carries a three-minute report saying that at least 15 casualties were inflicted on Army troops by END forces in La Libertad and Santa Ana Departments. According to Radio Farabundo Marti, an Army truck was ambushed on the highway between San Salvador and Santa Ana on 3 October. "Five casualties were inflicted on 2d Infantry Brigade troops," the station reports.

Another report says that on 3 October END units ambushed a military vehicle carrying 2d Infantry Brigade troops on the highway between San Salvador and Santa Ana near La Reforma village, Ciudad Arce Jurisdiction, La Libertad Department. "Five casualties were inflicted on the Army troops," according to the station.

San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish at 0300 GMT on 4 October carries two one-minute reports saying that two Air Force members were wounded during an attack on the Mike Mike Factory located in (Cucumacayac) neighborhood on 3 October. "Alleged FMLN urban commandos fired at the factory. Two Air Force members were seriously wounded by AK-47 rifle fire," the station reports. The other report states that guerrillas suffered six casualties in clashes that took place in Usulutan Department on 3 October. According to military reports, 6th Infantry Brigade troops clashed with FMLN forces in San Francisco Javier. "Six rebels were killed and five soldiers were wounded," the station reports.

San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish at 0300 GMT on 5 October carries a two-minute report on clashes between the Army and the FMLN on the Panamerican Highway near Los Chorros Tourist Center, on 4 October. First aid units reported eight casualties, including soldiers and civilians. The station also carries a report saying that one rebel was wounded and two others were killed in clashes between the guerrilla and Belloso Battalion in Meanguera Municipality, Morazan Department, on 4 October. The report adds that two soldiers were wounded during a rebel ambush in Arce City, La Libertad Department.

(Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 5 October carries nine minutes of reports saying that war continues to escalate, since the Belloso Battalion joined the Arce Battalion, in Morazan Department on 4 October.

The station also reports that END units clashed with Arce Battalion troops in Gigante Hill, Perquin, Morazan Department on 2 October. "One confirmed casualty was inflicted on the enemy," according to the station.

Another report states that END forces killed an Arce Battalion member during clashes in San Fernando, Morazan Department, on 2 October. A soldier was killed when Arce Battalion troops tried to proceed from Buena Vista Hill to (Pocotillo) Hill.

Venceremos also reports that END troops blocked portions of the Panamerican Highway, between Los Chorros Tourist Center and Santa Tecla, La Libertad Department, on 5 October. This resulted in clashes with Police Instruction Center (CETIPOL) units and the cavalry, which left two CETIPOL casualties. The report adds that

the END blocked stretches of the Santa Tecla-La Libertad port road and inflicted one casualty during clashes on 5 October.

(Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 6 October broadcasts four minutes of reports saying that a total of 71 casualties have been inflicted on the Salvadoran Army between 1-5 October.

The station adds that END units attacked Belloso Battalion troops, who were conducting an operation on the Jucoaitique detour on 5 October. "Four casualties were inflicted on the Belloso Battalion," Radio Farabundo Marti reports.

In addition, at 1000 on 5 October, END units clashed with troops from Military Detachment No. 1 in La Cruz, Cinquera Jurisdiction, Cabanas Department. "One casualty was inflicted," the guerrillas claim. Another report adds that at noon on 5 October, END units clashed with 4th Infantry Brigade troops in Cerro Grande, Agua Caliente Jurisdiction, Chalatenango Department. "One casualty was inflicted on the 4th Infantry Brigade," the station says.

San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish on 5 October on page 4 carries a 150-word report saying that Modesto Ramirez Urban Commando units attacked a National Guard post in Malaga neighborhood, Santa Anita district in San Salvador on 4 October. "Two casualties were inflicted on the National Guard," the article reports.

Finally, San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish at 0300 GMT on 8 October carries a one-minute report saying that a National Guard post in Atlacatl Neighborhood was attacked on 7 October and three guardsmen were wounded. The report adds that no group has claimed responsibiliity for the attack.

Guatemala

President Serrano Supports OAS Action on Haiti

PA1010131691 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Oct 91

[News conference given by President Jorge Serrano in Guatemala City to unidentified reporters on 9 October—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Serrano] Regarding Haiti, I would like to say that my government is 100 percent behind the multilateral actions taken by the OAS. Yesterday, when my government was consulted, we gave our full support to these actions. There is a great deal of talk that we are fostering the organization of a military invasion. That is not true. We have always said that we are willing to support all measures, no matter how drastic they may be, to have a democratic regime restored in Haiti.

The matter of an invasion constitutes something completely different. That option is not even contained in the OAS Charter. It was clearly stated that an invasion could only be done by amending the OAS Charter, something that is not under discussion. We will participate in all measures of economic, diplomatic, and political pressure. The economic embargo, and suspending oil deliveries to Haiti, have our full support. We think that any effort the continent makes to protect the institution of democracy anywhere is fundamental.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Serrano] As we said, within the framework of the resolution the OAS issued last night, we recognize the government of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. [passage omitted]

Serrano on Predecessor, International Issues

PA1010153391 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 8 Oct 91 p 3

[Text] President Serrano stated that [former President Vinicio] Cerezo Arevalo had a chance at running the government, but we are now correcting all of his mistakes and even paying the arrears that he had with international financial organizations, referring to statements by the former president that the government is "lashing out wildly."

Serrano mentioned the cases of U.S. citizen Michael Devine, anthropologist Myrna Mack, the rape of nun Diana Ortiz, and the murder of Santiago Atitlan, for which Serrano said his government has assumed the responsibility of finding solutions through the application of justice.

The president made it clear that his government is now facing the accumulation of old problems. He stressed: "I do not care about what he did or what he did not do, because my main concern now is to resolve the problems that he left unresolved, so that they do not continue hurting the country abroad, as has been the case."

Serrano mentioned that he participated in a ceremony at which he was surprised to see youngsters distributing fliers on the murder of 49 journalists and the exile of 100 other journalists. He said that this had nothing to do with his administration.

Fortunately, the president continued, there is a parlamentarian trend at the Congress of the Republic that knows when "we should have party differences and when we should unite as a country."

Serrano stressed that it is not up to former members of the Constituent Assembly to issue a legal ruling on the recognition of Belize as an independent state. It is up to the organizations that they created, namely the constitutionality court. This court must qualify the government's action, he stated.

Serrano added that the former Constituent Assembly members would be violating the Constitution by meddling and giving an opinion that no legal, much less constitutional, mandate empowered them to give. Furthermore, Serrano's decision was made based on the Constitution after consulting many constitutional experts.

Finally, Serrano Elias said that his government will support the OAS with whatever measures it takes to reestablish democracy in Haiti.

According to the agreement, it is the obligation of the OAS to support popular and democratically elected governments in the hemisphere.

Guerrillas Kill 2 Military Commissioners

PA1110011791 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 9 Oct 91 p5

[Text] Guerrillas abducted two military commissioners from their homes and 200 meters away shot them to death, according the victims' relatives, who filed a complaint with the Quetzaltenango Branch of the Office of the Ombudsman for Human Rights. The relatives stated that the incidents took place in Concepcion Canton, Panajachel, Solola Department, and gave details of the murders, prompting fear among the local residents.

Military commissioners Lorenzo Perebal Lopix, 35, and Andres Lopix Balam, 35, were in their homes when 10 men wearing olive green uniforms broke in. After kidnapping the commissioners and "executing" them, the murderers fled.

The region's security office is investigating the incident, although it has yet to uncover any clue that would lead to identifying the perpetrators of this double "execution," which falls within the framework of the violence that is consuming Guatemala's western region.

Honduras

Central Bank President on Economic Plan

PA0810211591 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 7 Oct 91

[Report on interview with Central Bank President Ricardo Maduro by Nery Arteaga; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] Central Bank President Ricardo Maduro and Honduran Ambassador Policarpo Callejas Bonilla, members of President Rafael Leonardo Callejas' entourage, are traveling to the Republic of China [ROC] 7 October. Mr. Maduro said that President Callejas went to Honolulu, Hawaii, on 6-7 October and will meet the members of his entourage tonight. They will be arriving in the ROC together on 9 October. What is the economic importance of these meetings with ROC officials? We asked Mr. Maduro if he felt that the search for funds will sink the country deeper into debt.

[Maduro] The trip is important to strengthen our excellent traditional relations. In this specific case, we are going to sign a loan agreement for $21 million that will boost infrastructure projects, chiefly highways. I am also certain the trip will yield other benefits. We are going to meet with several Chinese businessmen. The president and I will be attending a seminar on commerce and investment. I think Honduras offers excellent investment potential.

Honduras is one of the few countries offering extraordinary advantages for foreign investment. I think this visit will prove very useful. We are also going to submit a request to the ROC that they consider backing our social projects. The president obviously will [words indistinct], and I think there is a good possibility the ROC will support programs in the housing, education, and health fields. That is why this trip is very important.

[Arteaga] Is the country becoming heavily indebted?

[Maduro] We have already reduced our foreign debt by $434 million. [Words indistinct] the large majority of loans have been obtained under concessional terms. The ideal thing would [words indistinct] in the country, but as long as we are unable to generate the foreign currency for necessary imports, we must seek ways to finance our economy. We can only do this in two ways: either through the arrival of capital, namely, investment in the country; or through the return of capital or loans. We have no alternative because we must cover a yearly gap of $150 to $200 million. We must meet our needs in the ways I mentioned. Unfortunately, investments are never enough, so we are forced to borrow.

That is why the measures to reinforce the export sector are so important. It is also important to implement aggressive programs to refinance the foreign debt under more favorable terms and to have these debts forgiven. The government's achievements in persuading the United States, the Netherlands, and Switzerland to forgive our debts constitute a historic event. Not to mention what we will achieve with other governments. The only way to solve our problem is to have the debts completely forgiven or to negotiate concessional terms to pay them. That means a 40- to 50-year period to pay at 2 percent interest.

[Arteaga] When will we feel the impact of the economic program? People expect the prices of staples and other products to drop.

[Maduro] The problem with these programs is time. What is achieved in numbers or macroeconomic terms is one thing, and what people feel in their pockets is another. Unfortunately, one lags behind the other. We have achieved stabilization, but I am sad to say that does not have a positive meaning for common citizens, because stabilizing prices is neutral. People want prices

to drop. We must keep in mind that we were experiencing chronic inflation because of a huge fiscal deficit and long-standing price controls. However, we succeeded in bringing prices to the level necessary to provide production incentives and to reduce and stabilize the deficit.

The fact that we achieved price stability through deregulation constitutes a tremendous economic feat that should encourage us to be optimistic. This situation, however, does not put money in the citizens' pockets. To do that, we need either economic growth or a price reduction. The only way to reduce prices on a permanent basis is through greater production. We have noticed that the agricultural sector is planting more than ever. Despite the drought, I hope our production of basic grains will be good. If prices for basic grains do not fall at harvest time, they will at least remain stable.

The production of traditional exports, such as bananas and coffee, is rising. Nontraditional export production is also quickly increasing; for example, shrimp, melon, and citrus fruits. We also have huge investments in industrial parks and tourist projects on the bay, as well as in other zones designated for development.

FPM Claims Responsibility for Revenge Killing

PA0810151591 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 5 Oct 91 p 9

[Communique issued by the Morazanist Patriotic Front, FPM, General Commmand on 4 October]

[Text] We hereby inform the people that, at 0830 on 4 October, the "Carlos Howel" Urban Cell of the Morazanist Patriotic Front [FPM] killed Raul Suazo because he was implicated in the kidnapping, disappearance, and murder of our comrades, just as we killed Roberto Garay and Rigoberto Rendon because they belonged to the network that Squad 316 maintains at the National Autonomous University and other centers of learning in the country.

Divine justice, the justice of the people, may take time in coming but never forgets; and we have never forgotten our comrades killed by the assassins of Squad 316.

With this action we are condemning the murders of Xicaque leader Vicente Matute Cruz and the Astillero peasants by the country's landowners and the military at their employ. We condemn the fact that the nationalist government has turned over the Mosquitia region to U.S. companies, against the wishes of the Honduran people.

On the 199th anniversary of the birth of General Francisco Morazan, we state that he lives among those who want a free and democratic fatherland. People, watch out because "long is the night and Morazan is watching."

[Signed] FPM General Command We only get on our knees to fire at the enemy.

[Issued] 4 October 1991, Honduras

Nicaragua

Government Comdemns Haitian Coup Attempt

PA1010204691 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1815 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Communique issued by the Foreign Ministry Press Office in Managua on 10 October]

[Text] The Foreign Ministry reports to the Nicaraguan people and the international community that the Nicaraguan Government will ignore the maneuver carried out by the coupists in Haiti to try to replace President Jean-Bertrand Aristide with another person in order to consolidate their own power and prevent the construction of true democracy in that country.

The Nicaraguan Government recognizes Jean-Bertrand Aristide as the president of Haiti and as the only legitimate representative of the Haitian people, in line with OAS Resolution 1080, adopted at the OAS General Assembly session on 5 July 1991 in Santiago, Chile.

The resolution states that the OAS will not for any reason recognize any government that is a product of military coups or any other actions that go against the democratic constitutionality of our countries.

The Nicaragua Government, through Foreign Minister Enrique Dreyfus, is working with other foreign ministers of this continent within the OAS framework in order to find a solution to the Haiti problem. This solution is to take into consideration the desires for peace of that sister nation, within the framework of strict respect for domestic and international law.

[Issued] Managua, 10 October 1991
[Signed] Press Office of the Foreign Ministry.

PLI President Critical of Haitian Coup

PA0810004491 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Dr. Wilfredo Navarro, president of the Independent Liberal Party [PLI], has stated that the military coup in Haiti has been repudiated by all Latin American countries because democracy is gaining strength with each passing day. Therefore, he added, President Violeta Chamorro must not be afraid to remove General Humberto Ortega from the post of Armed Forces commander, because no military coup will take place here. Let us listen to statements by Dr. Wilfredo Navarro:

[Begin recording] [Navarro] The attitude adopted by military officers in Haiti is the same attitude that has been held by the guerrillas, petty generals, and tropical Napoleons of Latin America who for decades have obstructed the democratic processes. However, thank God, the winds of freedom and democracy around the world have led us to believe that this attack against

democracy, and other barbaric actions against the peace process in Latin America, will be aborted by the people of Latin America and the OAS.

The courageous attitude of the Soviet people during the coup d'etat against the democratic process in the USSR—when the Soviet people and the international community prevented democracy from collapsing—is still fresh in our memory. These coup attempts, both in the USSR and in Haiti, reflect the need to eliminate the armies. Winds of peace, freedom, and democracy are blowing again around the world, and it is necessary that the military, armies, and rifles disappear. Armies do not produce anything and they destroy and consume everything. Subsequently, poor countries, including those in Latin America, need to reduce the size of their armies.

Since this democratic process necessarily results in the elimination of the privileges and benefits of the military, they are resisting this democratic process in all countries. This is what we are seeing now in Haiti, but the Haitian people and the international community will reverse this process. I believe that, shortly, the military will again be sent back to their garrisons so that democracy can prevail in Haiti.

The example of Haiti and the USSR should be pointed out as an example for President Chamorro and [Presidency Minister] Antonio Lacayo so that they understand that they must not continue to undermine the democratic process in Nicaragua. They must understand that government policies must be implemented according to the promises made during the electoral campaign. They must not be afraid of either the pro-Sandinist Army forces or Humberto Ortega. They must not be afraid of a coup d'etat or that the Army will take control of the country, because first the Nicaraguan people, then international community will dump these petty generals and tropical Nicaraguan Napoleons—who think that they can create more war in this country—into the garbage can of history.

President Chamorro should understand that her first responsibility is to the Nicaraguan people, not the Sandinist Front. She won the election thanks to the 14 UNO [National Opposition Union] parties and the Nicaraguan people—she does not have to answer to the Sandinist Front. The president must be made aware that the collusion, deals, and agreements being made with the Sandinist Front are being made behind the backs of the people and contrary to history. She must understand that it is time that the government comply with the government program.

The pro-Sandinist military officers and Gen. Ortega and Gen. Cuadra must realize that what is happening around them will eventually affect them, because there is no room for the military in the Nicaragua of the future. We recommend that they learn a new profession, because careers in the Nicaraguan military are going to wind up in the garbage can of history.

[Unidentified reporter] Dr. Wilfredo Navarro, President Violeta Chamorro has said that she wants peace in Central America. We would like to know if this is a true statement, considering that a gigantic military apparatus currently exists in Nicaragua?

[Navarro] The problem is that the apparatus that exists was created as part of the messianic pro-Sandinist structure. This large Army tried to spread the revolutionary process and proletariat internationalism throughout Central America. I remember that, on one occasion, Ortega said that they were going to set a revolutionary fire in Central America; that is the mentality of this large Army that we still have.

It is necessary... [pauses] The president contradicts herself because she is protecting and defending the Army. The Legislative Assembly proposed cuts in the military budget, but the president opposed it. The statements by the president are contradictory, because while she endorses peace in Central America, she continues to maintain one of the largest armies in Central America. There is no war in Nicaragua. The isolated acts of violence are provoked by current military personnel or demobilized members of the Army who were and are being sponsored by sinister Sandinist forces.

We believe that President Chamorro must be sincere. That is why, in a letter that we will send her, we state that the words reconciliation, state of law, peace, and legal guarantees sound like demagoguery and have no meaning coming from her, because she has been unable to prevent violence and barbaric acts by those who for 10 years destroyed this country. We do not believe that President Chamorro should listen to the advice of neo-Sandinists like Antonio Lacayo, who offers a political and economic program that is supported by the rifles of the Sandinist Front.

Antonio Lacayo, who spoke out against this Army when he was out of the government, needs it now to remain in power and maintain the privileges and advantages that he is creating around him. During the electoral campaign in Nicaragua, we—including Antonio Lacayo—used to say that this situation had to change, and that it could not go on like this. However, I now ask myself if Antonio Lacayo meant that the administration of the Sandinist Front had to be transformed into some kind of neo-Somozism, where the people will be economically suffocated and a new Somoza, that is Antonio Lacayo, will take over all the enterprises that are opening here. Under this form of neo-Somozism, as in the past, when a businessmen wanted to open a business, he had to speak first with Anastasio Somoza and give him shares so that it could open. This is what is taking place now. Instead of having to go now and speak with Somoza, one has to speak to Antonio Lacayo.

I believe that this must end in today's Nicaragua and that the Nicaraguan people must promote a democratic process, without Somozas, Sandinists, Ortegas, and nepotism, which is presently taking root in Nicaragua. [end recording]

IDB Approves Funds for Trade, Financial Programs

PA1110050591 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1815 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] The Inter-American Development Bank [IDB] announced the approval of $132.5 million in funds to support Nicaraguan trade and financial programs designed to improve the economy and promote growth.

The IDB funds will support Nicaraguan trade policy reforms aimed at increasing competition and private sector participation by eliminating state monopolies on foreign trade, reducing distortions caused by quantitative restrictions on imports, and liberalizing the marketing of basic grains.

The government will liberalize the exchange rate market, reduce inconsistencies in the tariff structure, and create incentives for exports.

Minister Urges Respect for Public Order

PA1110035891 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo urged the Nicaraguan people to respect the constitutional government's public order organizations. Vilma Estrada reports on the presidency minister's evaluation of the recently implemented disarmament program.

[Begin recording] [Estrada] Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo condemned as unacceptable the events at El Ayote in Region 5, where recontra groups disarmed EPS [Sandinist People's Army] members. He warned that public order authorities must be respected because, if they are not, the government will take firm and unyielding action.

[Lacayo] This must be clear. The Nicaraguan people constitutionally elected Violeta Chamorro's government. The Constitution clearly states the government is obligated to safeguard public order. We all know which organizations are in charge of maintaining public order. If we want to have a democracy and live in peace, all Nicaraguans must respect the constitutional organizations in charge of the public forces. Anyone who believes he can denigrate the police is mistaken. He will soon realize this, because we cannot allow anyone to act this way. Otherwise, everyone would want to impose his own law and order, and we would end up in a jungle, and this is not...

[Estrada, interrupting] The minister said the operation was initiated by the simultaneous placement of 80 roadblocks 3 October. He said the government is doing all it can to recover the weapons currently held by civilians.

[Lacayo] We believe people increasingly favor disarming the recontras, the recompas [former Sandinist servicemen who have grouped together to face the recontras], and all armed civilians. It must be clear that the government's insistence on dialogue and negotiations does not mean that it has its hands tied.

[Estrada] Lacayo said the disarmament process was necessary and forecast it would be the last and final phase in the country's integration. [end recording]

Chamorro Rejects Property Expropriation Option

PA1010201191 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] President Violeta Chamorro on 9 October rejected the legal mechanism to expropriate houses and plots of land from those who received them under Laws 85 and 86. She said that she had decided the executive and legislative branches should draft a property law based on a general consensus. Chamorro told this to National Assembly President Alfredo Cesar and National Assembly Vice President Deputy Luis Sanchez on 9 October, during a nearly two-hour meeting held at the Presidential Palace.

The president said that the state would not have the financial capacity to indemnify everyone who benefited under Laws 85 and 86. This is because more than $500 million would be needed, according to calculations made by the presidency. President Chamorro met with Alfredo Cesar before his trip to Chile and Brazil.

EPS Says Stolen Weapons Intended for FMLN

PA1010200091 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 8 Oct 91 pp 1, 2

[Report by Josefa Palacios]

[Text] On 7 October, current and former EPS [Sandinist People's Army] soldiers arrested in September for stealing and trafficking weapons in alleged connection with Colombian guerrillas or drug traffickers, publicly denied that report saying that their real ties were with the Salvadoran guerrillas, for whom they openly expressed support.

The soldiers said that they had remained silent to avoid hindering the FMLN's [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] negotiations with Cristiani in New York, and that if the talks were positive, as they were, the weapons would be returned to the EPS.

Francisco Jose Aburto Loasiga "Yader," Luis Cortez Flores, Virgilio Vallejos Cruz, Harry Morales, Roger Mauricio Espinoza Caldera, and Virgilio Bravo Sequeira, sent an open letter to the media explaining their version of the events.

The six detainees are being prosecuted by a military judge advocate for the alleged crimes of theft by force, misuse of military property, disturbance of the peace, and instigation to commit crime.

Dr. Leonel Torres Alfaro, "Yader's" defense attorney and the person who presented the letter, denied the

charges leveled against his client. He said that the defendants' testimony proves that they did not perpetrate those crimes.

"We would like to explain that first and foremost we are revolutionaries, and that we profoundly support the Salvadoran people's cause and struggle which has been led by the FMLN," the defendants stated.

They also said that they refrained from making these statements at the press conference held on 21 September by the EPS High Command because "doing so would have had a negative effect on the dialogue that was under way between the FMLN and the Salvadoran Government."

Nevertheless, because the authorities link us with Colombian guerrilla organizations, "with which we have never had any ties, let alone with drug traffickers, we categorically deny all of those allegations." The soldiers also rejected "any explanation that may have been given beyond the context of our statements."

At the beginning of April 1990, prior to the talks in Mexico between the guerrillas and the Salvadoran Government, guerrilla Commander "Gregorio," accompanied by another member of the FMLN called "Pancasio," visited the home of Comrade Francisco Jose Aburto Loasiga ("Yader"); they subsequently visited him on several occasions.

In mid-April "Gregorio" and "Pancasio" asked "Yader" to cooperate with the Salvadoran guerrillas, who were in urgent need of antiaircraft weapons and mortar grenades because the Salvadoran Army was planning an offensive against the guerrilla forces. "We must mention that this was prior to the dialogue," they said.

"After this request for cooperation and after the fall of Commander Jesus Rojas "Chuzon," we agreed to cooperate with the Salvadoran guerrillas.

"At the time it was our plan to issue 1,000 mortar grenades by mid-May. We sent approximately 500 mortar grenades and 400 RPG-7 rockets taken from the warehouses of the EPS. Commander "Gregorio" was immediately informed of this action.

"Gregorio responded that due to the delay in the departure of the weapons and also because the talks in Mexico had begun, we should hold onto the weapons to avoid hindering the talks," they said.

"Two months later, "Pancasio" visited again. He told us that it was urgent to get the remainder of the weapons, including 20 antiaircraft missiles, which we agreed to do. The weapons were ready within 15 days."

The weapons were transferred in early August from the Xiloa warehouses to the house where they were found, according to the letter.

"We notified "Pancasio" that the weapons had been sent, and he told us to hold on to them as we did with the grenades; he told us not to worry because the political arrangements had been made and they were only awaiting the results of the talks.

"On 1 September Comrade "Yader" met with Luis, Commander "Gregorio's" representative, who told him that the transfer of the weapons would depend on the result of the talks at the United Nations.

"If the dialogue was positive, they would plan the return of the weapons to the EPS warehouses; we agreed and planned the return of all the weapons."

The defendants argue that they were arrested on 19 September, before the talks had concluded, and "this is why we totally deny the accusations that we were attempting to establish contact with other organizations."

To conclude, the defendants demanded the solidarity of revolutionary and mass organizations.

EPS Troops Deploy in Chontales Department

PA1010194791 Managua Sistema Nacional Television Network in Spanish 0330 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] At 1000 today, Sandinist People's Army [EPS] forces were transferred to La Pinuela, San Fernando municipality, Chontales Department, 5th Region, to restore order and protect the population.

Recontras headed by "Rojito" have been operating in this area for several months. The recontra leader has kept in close contact with several 5th Region mayors. The recontras have virtually taken over the area, making it impossible to conduct productive activities. According to preliminary reports from the 5th Region, "Rojito" and his followers are trying to escape from the EPS operation.

Recontras Capture Soldiers, Seize Weapons

PA1010153191 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 7 Oct 91 pp 1, 12

[Report by Roger Suarez M. and Mena B.]

[Text] Juigalpa—In a communique addressed to Joaquin Lovo, delegate of the governor's office in Juigalpa, rearmed Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] members reported capturing 34 Army and police members and seizing war supplies on 4 October.

The note says that Army Major Orlando Perez Lopez and Lieutenant Julian Padilla, chief of police in Santo Domingo, are two of the captured soldiers.

The war materiel seized includes 29 AK-47 rifles, three Makarov pistols, two LAW rockets, one Browning 9mm pistol, 26 bullet proof vests, one grenade-carrier vest with 27 M-79 grenades, one box of grenades, 92 AK-47 ammunition clips, two bayonets, 2,500 AK-47 rounds of ammunition, one PRC-77 radio set, and one 105-type radio set.

The materiel and the captured soldiers stayed in El Ayote 17 hours, from 1300 on 4 October to 0600 on 5 October.

In their letter, "Rojito," "Matizon," "Domador," "Bravo 70," "Comandante 31," and "Nelson," the recontra leaders, demanded security throughout the country and respect for the demobilized RN. They also demanded that the CIAV [International Commission for Support and Verification] -OAS delegation remain in the country and the immediate withdrawal of Sandinist People's Army soldiers and Sandinist police members from Santo Domingo, La Libertad, San Pedro de Lovago, La Gateada, and Nueva Guinea.

The recontras expressed their willingness for dialogue to consolidate the Nicaraguan people's tranquillity. The military operation took place between Santo Domingo and El Ayote in Chontales Department.

The Army occupied El Ayote on 6 October and military helicopters overflew the village and headed for the mountains in the northern area.

Lovo confirmed this morning that the captured weapons are still in the hands of the recontras and that the CIAV-OAS delegates have pledged to find a solution to this problem, which could affect the attainment of peace.

There is a warlike climate in this part of the country. Men in camouflaged uniforms roam roads, fields, and urban areas.

Lt. Ricardo Wheelock, head of the Public Relations Department of the Armed Forces, this morning denied that the Army occupied El Ayote and the existence of a warlike climate.

Nevertheless, Army and governorship sources in Juigalpa said this morning that local Army representatives have taken a "hard" stand and are determined to recover "at all costs" the weapons in the hands of the contras.

A meeting was held at the governor's office in Juigalpa this morning to discuss the tense situation in El Ayote.

Chontales sources, who asked to remain unnamed, have said that the armed groups known as recontras are willing to accept the mediation of CIAV members to prevent the Army from initiating operations to recover the weapons, thus triggering the first armed confrontation.

Other sources asserted that the CIAV-OAS sent several of its representatives to El Ayote to speak in favor of the Army and police members in the hands of the recontras. Hours later, the 47 [number as published] people were released.

Army Reports Clash With Recontras Near Jinotega

PA1010190891 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0330 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] In a communique issued a few hours ago, the Sandinist People's Army public relations office reported that a group of approximately 20 to 30 recontras attacked a police blockade in Los Letreros, 2 km east of San Antonio de las Cuchillas, Jinotega.

Soldier Justo Pascual Gonzalez was killed during the crash; on the recontra side, three subversives were killed and four wounded.

According to the communique, the Army recovered AK rifles, blankets, hammocks, knapsacks, and a tape recorder. The hammocks, knapsacks, and blankets were U.S.-made.

The group was led by Pocoyo, leader of a recontras group that has committed acts of terrorism, theft, and murder for months against civilians in the vicinity of El Coa.

Panama

Authorities Arrest Five Alleged Subversives

PA1010174691 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 9 Oct 91 p 12

[Report by Oscar Eduardo Lasso]

[Text] After an aggressive search in the central provinces of the country, Panamanian authorities found and arrested five Public Force members and at least one of Prosecutor General Rogelio Cruz' bodyguards, who allegedly had planned destabilizing actions against the government of President Endara and the U.S. forces stationed in the Panama Canal area, a U.S. Embassy source told EL SIGLO.

According to reliable sources, the five persons arrested included a police lieutenant and a sergeant, who made up this subversive group with three lower-ranking companions. These individuals are being questioned at the Judicial Technical Police [PTJ] headquarters.

Unofficial sources have said that the PTJ suspected the activities of these former officials several weeks ago, when the PTJ raided an area in Santiago, Veraguas, and arrested several undesirables held responsible for robbing banks and private homes. These undesirables said that the policemen were plotting against the Endara government, that isolated incidents might take place at the residences of top government officials, and that the rest of the group sought refuge at the Costa Rican border in order to plot future terrorist actions.

According to the source, the subversives scheduled their destabilizing actions for 11 October, during the commemoration of another anniversary of the 1968 coup

headed by Boris Martinez, who was subsequently supplanted by General Omar Torrijos, the leader of what was later called the October "process."

The other members of the plotting group left Santiago for Chiriqui Province, where they went deep into inaccessible places on the border with Costa Rica.

The group leaders include Carlos Saldana, a former major in the Panama Defense Forces who is known as "Superman," and several former members of the National Police who participated in the 5 December 1990 coup attempt led by then Colonel Eduardo Herrera.

Prosecutor General Cruz said that the subversive group, which has members throughout the country, is bent on eliminating the democratic system in Panama.

Ford on Electricity Payments to Honduras

PA1110043891 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 10 Oct 91 p 2a

[Report by Juan M. Diaz]

[Text] Guillermo Ford, planning and economic policy minister, stated that the payments to Honduras of 5.6 million balboas for electricity, which included the assumption of over 2.8 million of Honduras' foreign debt, were totally legal.

Ford stressed that Panama saved a substantial amount, as the purchase of debt in a secondary market is at a discount. He added that no intermediary commission payments were authorized. The Honduran Government, however, began investigating the case after receiving reports that a Honduran company made illegal profits.

According to these reports, the "Honduran Government lost foreign exchange in this operation because it provided a discount for those who carried out the transaction."

Reports also indicate that the Panamanian Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Elecrification (IRHE) made the payment in cash, but a group of unidentified Hondurans and Panamanians used the money to buy Honduran foreign debt notes on the international market.

Argentina

Menem on New Loans; Refuge for Syrian Jews

PY1010170991 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1331 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 10 Oct (TELAM)—President Carlos Menem said today "to the entire Argentine people" that he will not stray from the course that has been adopted "despite reactions from political or party sectors."

While admitting that "everyone has the right to protest and preserve their interests"—alluding to the Hipasam and Somisa [Argentine Iron and Steel Joint Association] cases—he said that "the interests of Argentina come first."

Menem said that some of those who opened a soup kitchen outside Government House—to protest the workers home issue—"are the mercenaries of the left, who become involved in every problem in the hope of creating some uncertainty or difficulties."

"Those things, which do not help the country, have no influence on us," the president said during his first day of work after returning yesterday from a nine-day tour of Israel, Egypt, Tunisia, and Cyprus.

He added: "If things continue to go well, or even partly well, next year we will join the Brady Plan," which regulates reductions in the foreign debt.

Menem highlighted the importance that his upcoming trip to the United States will have for Argentina, betting that "before the end of the year, or at the beginning of next year" our country will obtain an expanded financial facility credit agreement worth approximately $3 billion.

He added that he will instruct his assistants to expedite the privatization process which, "even though underway, has run into some delays that have harmed the Argentine people." [passage omitted]

The president said that the results of his visit to the Middle East were "excellent," because it permitted various commercial contacts and promoted relations with the presidents of the visited countries.

He said that in response to a request from the Israeli authorities, he will continue with the efforts to help 4,000 to 5,000 Israeli citizens leave Syria, a task in which Egyptian President Husni Mubarak is also involved.

Menem explained: "There are some problems which the Israelis consider important. They are waiting for a gesture from the Syrian Government, which will play a very important role in these talks."

He said that although Syria fears that those Israeli citizens would "immediately" return to Israel, "Argentina is willing to house them, without any type of conditions, until the problems in the Middle East are resolved."

He said: "They have an interesting economic power, and we need people like this in our immense territory. There will be no problem in having them here," said Menem in connection with the talks with his Egyptian counterpart.

President Menem Visits Middle East

WA1010163091

For reportage on the visit by President Carlos Menem to Israel, Egypt, and Tunisia, including reports on his talks with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, and Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, please see the Israel section of the 2-4 and 7 October Near East and South Asia DAILY REPORT issues, the Egypt section of the 7 October issue, and the Tunisia section of the 8 and 10 October issues.

Economy Minister Cavallo Departs for Thailand

PY1010234091 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2257 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Oct (TELAM)—Economy Minister Domingo Cavallo arrived at Ezeiza International Airport to begin his trip to Thailand at 1945 local time today. The plane that will take the minister to Rome departed five minutes later.

Cavallo arrived in Ezeiza barely in time to board the plane because he was meeting with President Carlos Menem at the Olivos Presidential Residence.

Tomorrow Cavallo will board a Singapore Airlines flight in Rome and fly to Thailand.

No Public Administration Wage Hikes Scheduled

PY1010204891 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 10 Oct 91 p 11

[Excerpt] (NA-DYN)—Economy Minister Domingo Cavallo stated yesterday that there will be no wage increases in the public administration and insisted that private companies can only negotiate hikes based on higher productivity.

"The rules of the game are clear enough," the minister said, "and public departments will have to make do with current budgets."

Cavallo denied knowing of any planned wage hike for Supreme Court justices. "They have their own budget and they will see what they do with it, but the amount will not change and, according to the Constitution, we cannot change their salaries," he explained.

The economy minister issued these statements at the Colon theatre after presiding over a session of the Inter-American Auditing Congress.

While the Argentine Business University (UADE) reported that the purchasing power of white collar workers went up 16 percent and that of blue collar

workers 21 percent since the convertibility plan began six months ago, the National Statistics Board reported that job opportunities fell 6.3 percent in September.

As for the situation in the different unions in conflict.

—Court workers: Over 90 percent of court clerks in this City [Buenos Aires] went on strike yesterday to demand higher wages and the complete administrative independence of the sector. Almost all judicial and appeals court offices were deserted while Central Courthouse sources were expecting a communique of the Supreme Court postponing all deadlines for the presentation of writs from yesterday to today. [passage omitted]

Duhalde Elected Justicialist Party President

PY.010211891 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0039 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] La Plata, 9 Oct (TELAM)—Eduardo Duhalde, the recently elected Justicialist Party (PJ) president, urged everyone to "purify" the party. He added: "We will not accept as members those who competed against Peronist candidates in the last elections."

Duhalde made these comments during the ceremony in which he was installed as the new PJ head. The ceremony, held at the Corregidor Hotel in Buenos Aires, ended at 2130.

CNEA Signs Uranium Exploration Contract

PY1010165191 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2045 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Oct (NA)—It was officially reported here today that the National Commission for Atomic Energy [CNEA] signed a contract on 9 October with Nuclear Mendoza S.E. for the exploitation of the Sierra Pintada uranium mine.

The agreement includes services and activities that complement the running of the uranium concentrates production plant.

The contract will facilitate the resumption of uranium concentrate production, which is vital for the Atucha and Embalse nuclear plants.

The San Rafael Mining and Factory Complex, which is the richest uranium deposit in the country, will be reactivated within a few weeks .

Bolivia

Government Advocates OAS Resolution on Haiti

PY1010130891 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] The Bolivian Government advocates the OAS resolution on the situation in Haiti. Announcing Bolivia's position on the Haitian problem, Minister of the Presidency Gustavo Fernandez said that Bolivia will make every effort possible in support of reestablishment of the democratic institution and observance of the Constitution in Haiti.

[Begin Fernandez recording] The resolution that was approved yesterday includes various possible measures. The first one deals with economic sanctions, but there are other possibilities that will be analyzed in due time. Anyway, the Bolivian Government will back any of those possibilities so that the objective established in the resolution can truly be complied with. [end recording]

Government To Continue Antidrug Efforts

PY1010162091 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] The Bolivian Government has announced that it will continue to make every effort possible to fight drug trafficking in the country.

In addition to the Army's participation in the antidrug struggle, Interior Minister Carlos Saavedra Bruno said that despite trials for malfeasance in office, we will continue the struggle against drug trafficking. He also said that it is too soon to voice an opinion on what could happen after expiration of the 120-day period given to drug traffickers to voluntarily surrender. This measure, which is included in the Repentance Decree, has already yielded positive results.

[Begin Saavedra recording] People should be aware of the efforts being made by the government and the country. This represents a cost for the country. This is a matter that does not just concern the government. One should conduct a poll to see how many people are for or against drug trafficking. Let us test this. I can assure you that more than 80 percent of the people know the objective and will reply that they disagree with drug trafficking. [end recording]

Electoral Timetable Changes Ruled Out

PY1010190791 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] President Jaime Paz Zamora met with national electoral court members who briefed him on the scheduled activities in connection with the municipal elections. It was decided to maintain the scheduled timetable and, consequently, the possibility of moving the deadline for registering voters has been ruled out.

Dr. Alcira Espinoza, acting president of the national court, said:

[Begin recording] Article 77 of the Electoral Law states that electoral registries should close 45 days before the elections. Therefore, the court has established the longest registration period permitted by law and it cannot violate the law. [end recording]

Minister of the Presidency Gustavo Fernandez said that President Paz conveyed his satisfaction over the way in which electoral court members have been designated.

[Begin Fernandez recording in progress]... the level of training and knowledge of electoral court members, and their hard work to become acquainted with all the electoral stations within their jurisdiction. [end recording]

As for the disbursement of the budget for the court, Acting Finance Minister Helga Salinas said that funds are being normally supplied, and that the disbursement of 20 million Bolivian pesos requested by the court will be completed in the next few days.

[Begin Salinas recording] We believe that the process is guaranteed, especially because of the capacity of the court members who today showed to us many factors that will guarantee an excellent election for the Bolivian people. In addition, we have coordinated all efforts and there are no economic problems. [end recording]

Espinoza said that some 650,000 citizens have thus far registered. Comparing this with the registration figures for the municipal elections of 1987 shows that approximately 70 percent of the total number of voters have already registered. He said:

[Begin recording] We have carefully examined the situation on the basis of the information supplied by departmental court presidents, who were here yesterday. I believe that this is an absolutely realistic assessment of the number of voters in the municipal elections in 1989 [as heard] and we can say this is a very good figure. [end recording]

Minister Fernandez summarized the issues dealt with by the president and the members of the court:

[Begin recording] I would like to convey—on behalf of the executive branch—the president's satisfaction with the progress that the national electoral court has made. This is a special electoral court, because it is the first—at least in recent times—to have been elected through a consensus and it is the first court to enjoy considerable support from the public and from national institutions. [end recording]

Ibero-American Indian Development Fund Created

PY1010225191 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 24 Sep 91 p 5

[Summary] Acting Bolivian Foreign Minister Marcelo Perez presided over yesterday a ceremony at which the Ibero-American Fund for the Development of Indian Nations was created at the suggestion of the Bolivian Government.

Government Receives $7 Million Swiss Donation

PY1010230591 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 24 Sep 91 p 3

[Summary] The Swiss Government has donated $7 million to Bolivia to help finance its balance of payments. It falls within the framework of the international structural adjustment program backed by the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and bilateral financial organizations.

Brazil

Alternative Military Service Bill Sanctioned

PY1010184891 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 8 Oct 91 p 4

[Summary] Brasilia—This weekend, President Collor sanctioned, without vetoes, the bill regulating Article 143 of the Constitution, which contemplates the establishment of alternatives to mandatory military service. Brazilians who cannot comply with the mandatory military service for religious, philosophical, or political reasons will fulfill bureaucratic tasks in the Navy, Air Force, or Army Ministries. This administrative, welfare, philanthropic, or even productive work can also be conducted at other ministries as long as they sign agreements with the military ministries.

Governor Brizola Criticizes Federal Government

PY1010191691 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 8 Oct 91 p 5 Section 1

[Text] On 7 October, Rio de Janeiro Governor Leonel Brizola, 69, criticized the federal government's actions. His words predicted an imminent break with President Fernando Collor de Mello.

The comments were made during an interview with Radio Guaiba of Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul State. Radio Guaiba and Radio Farroupilla headed the "Legality Chain" in 1961, when Brizola—who was Rio Grande do Sul governor then—led the opposition in a movement favoring the installment of Vice President Joao Goulart as president after Janio Quadros renounced the presidency.

Referring to Collor, the privatization policy, state reform, and other issues, Brizola said: "I regret seeing him choose to emulate General Dutra [president from 1946-51], and the recent military dictatorship presidents, Sarney [president from 1985-90], and Janio Quadros [president from March to August 1961]."

With regard to the federal government's decision to privatize Minas Gerais Iron and Steel Mills, Inc. [Usiminas], Brizola said: "This is an attempt to play the role of a good guy to please the international banks." He added that by privatizing Usiminas, the government "is not defending the national interests."

In a "heated and indignant" tone, Brizola said the Big Amendment Project "will not be a solution," and that it can even "divide the nation unpardonably in an irremediable way that cannot be forgiven." He asserted that he will try to convince Collor to "review" his proposals because "this is an extremely serious moment and we must be united."

Brizola said that he does not want "to set the circus on fire," and that he will defend democracy "to the very end." He added: "We cannot, however, cross our arms, lower our heads, and allow the perpetration of injustices."

Brizola defended the indexation of salaries, which is a mechanism the government repudiates. In Brizola's opinion, the inflation rate "is again at alarming levels."

The governor said that other presidents have tried, without success, to implement reforms like the ones Collor is willing to implement. "The country is sinking deeper and deeper," he said.

Brizola concluded by saying that he has tried to reconciliate "personal differences" with Collor, but he is reacting now because he sees "irregularities" in the privatization program.

Government Reacts

PY1010195491 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 8 Oct 91 p 5 Section 1

[Text] The government still does not believe the attacks by Rio de Janeiro Governor Leonel Brizola, PDT [Democratic Workers' Party], on the privatization of Minas Gerais Iron and Steel Mills, Inc. [Usiminas] and on the Big Amendment Project are a sign that he will break with President Collor. Government leader Humberto Souto, of the Minas Gerais Liberal Front Party, said: "The PDT support is important to allow us to include the construction of Ciacs [Integrated Centers for Assistance to Children] in the national budget."

Regarding Usiminas, the government wants to evaluate two factors before adopting any position against Brizola: the rally against privatization that Brizola is organizing, and whether there will be adequate security forces around the Rio de Janeiro Stock Building on the day of the Usiminas auction. The government is aware of the PDT's and Brizola's position against privatization, but the government intends to evaluate how virulent a position against the president they will adopt during the rally. The government will react if there are further riots on the day of the auction.

Marques Leaves for IMF, World Bank Meeting

PY1010213091 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Justice Minister Jarbas Passarinho said that IMF support is important in trying to obtain foreign resources from creditor banks. The agreement between Brazil and the IMF will be signed after the tax reform proposed by the government is approved by Congress. This information was released by Economy Minister Marcilio Marques Moreira, who left on 9 October for Thailand. He will attend the IMF and World Bank annual meeting, where he will stress the need for creditor banks to consider Brazil's current capacity to pay its debt.

According to Marques Brazil will not be able to go beyond what is established in the proposal delivered in September to the Steering Committee. He thinks the proposal is reasonable and without many possibilities for amendments. Banks want to reduce the deadlines for payments and demand higher interest payments.

Marques said Brazil is seeking nothing unusual, only a reciprocal attitude involving more guarantees—especially in connection with interest—in order to avoid difficulties in fulfilling the agreed-upon timetable.

The minister also said that Brazil is not in condition to pay more than 30 percent of the interest owed in 1991. Concerning the IMF, he believes that late in October or early in November the letter of intent for the stand-by agreement will be ready. The agreement could go into effect beginning 1 December or 1 January. From Bangkok, Marques will go to Geneva, where he will discuss matters related to GATT. He thinks that there is a possibility for the Uruguay GATT talks to conclude. These talks were scheduled to end last year, but they were postponed because of disagreements among the countries.

Evidence of Foreign Military Intervention Exists

PY1010182291 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 9 Oct 91 p 8

[Text] Brasilia—Navy Minister Admiral Mario Cesar Flores stated yesterday that there is no "visible military threat" to the Amazon, but there are signs pointing to foreign military intervention in the region. He explained to deputies who are members of the CPI [Commission for Congressional Investigation] investigating reports of internationalization of the Amazon region that those signs are repeated requests by the United States for its Armed Forces to participate in military exercises with the Brazilian Navy in the region. These requests are always turned down, the minister said.

The Navy minister's other concern is the growing participation of U.S. troops with the Colombian Armed Forces in the antinarcotics campaign.

"This shows that they want to become acquainted with the theater of operations. Every year we turn down the request, but we cannot rule out the possibility that the threat could come indirectly," Flores said.

In his statement, the minister said that Brazil is vulnerable due to the current economic situation, and that the solution to the international pressures the country is enduring depends on the solution of a single problem:

the foreign debt. The government must also control its expenditures better, the minister said.

The government must resolve the country's foreign debt and cash problems if it wants to resist international pressures. We are vulnerable because of our foreign debt. We will never return to the right path if we do not get rid of the burdens inherited from a failed state system, Flores said.

The Navy minister recalled that many loans to Brazil are released on the condition that they are used in development programs that are worked out abroad, without consulting with the Brazilian Government.

We must join efforts if our opinion is going to count, bu' that is not happening because of our economic vulnerability. The Armed Forces must support the political position, Flores said.

The minister told deputies that if we want to prevent an internationalization of the Amazon region, we must solve "the controversial issue of occupations;" be careful with exploration concessions affecting the soil and subsoil; and prevent manipulation of the Indian question. Admiral Flores defended implementation of the Calha Norte project [for a military presence in northern border areas] with civilian participation as an answer to the question of occupations.

Civilians must participate in order to change the impression that the project is an all-military operation, Flores concluded.

No Threat of Sovereignty

PY1110011091 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek said today that there is no serious threat of a violation of Brazilian sovereignty in the Amazon region.

In a declaration to the Commission for Congressional Investigation, which is investigating attempts to internationalize the Amazon region, Minister Rezek said that he sees no threats of violation of Brazilian sovereignty in the Amazon region.

[Begin recording] [Rezek] As for national sovereignty over the Amazon region, there is no serious threat of internationalization. However, any significant sign of threat to any area of national sovereignty will be tackled in a timely manner and with the necessary firmness. But there is nothing of the sort. Nevertheless, it is only natural that a debate on an issue such as the internationalization of the Amazon be held and that it be included on the national Congress' agenda because there are always unfortunate comments, even in [words indistinct] illustrious. These types of comments obviously have an impact in Congress and generate a debate. But there is not ...

[Unidentified reporter, interrupting] Does Itamaraty see any internationalization attempt?

[Rezek] It sees no attempts at taking over the region, nor is it aware of any interventionist scenario proposed by those who have the potential to threaten in any way. [end recording]

Despite the fact that there are no threats to Brazilian sovereignty, Minister Rezek said the subject must be discussed within the country and that, although the government gives the region the necessary attention, the resources are small compared to the measures necessary to safeguard the Amazon region.

Justice Minister Pleased With Amendments Debate

PY1110020891 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Justice Minister Jarbas Passarinho said today in Belo Horizonte that he believes that the fact that Congress has divided President Fernando Collor's proposed constitutional amendments into five sections for debate is a sign of progress.

He also said the privatization process is irreversible.

Passarinho said the fact that Congress has divided the package of constitutional amendments into five sections for debate is a step forward and a sign of understanding.

In Minister Passarinho s opinion, the fact that the amendments are being debated separately will allow for improvements. He also noted that the amendment related to the fiscal adjustment will be the first one to be voted on. [recorded passage indistinct]

Passarinho also said that the privatization of Usiminas [Minas Gerais Iron and Steel Mills, Inc.] is irreversible now that the date for the auction has been confirmed for next 24 October. [recorded passage indistinct]

Congressional Bloc Created; 11 Senators Join

PY1010195191 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] A Democratic Workers Party [PDT] leader announced the creation of a congressional bloc to defend national sovereignty.

PDT Senator Mauricio Correa said that bloc will defend the monopolies that control oil, telecommunications and mineral resources, adding that 11 senators have already joined the bloc.

Inflation Rate for Aug, Sep Reported

PY1110020491 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Summary] The Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics in Rio de Janeiro reported today that the inflation rate for both August and September amounted to 33.67 percent.

Chile

Rojas Refutes Deputy on New Kennedy Amendment

PY1010205891 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Report by Carlos Alzamora]

[Text] Defense Minister Patricio Rojas said that the remarks made by National Renewal Party Deputy Federico Mekis, stating that the United States has implemented a new Kennedy Amendment against our country, are inaccurate.

The defense minister indicated that the U.S. congressional resolutions date back to 1971 and these resolutions involve informing the U.S. Congress, if necessary, about the supply of war materiel or technological support to various countries.

[Begin recording] I do not see any reason for public alarm. I think it is necessary to understand perfectly well that our military relationship is perfectly normal, that there are no preconditions by the Congress for the technological transfer of military equipment under cooperation agreements or involving sales to Chile, and that the clearest example for this is what I have just pointed out.

We have received very important support for our helicopter force in the Persian Gulf. Thanks to this support our Air Force is present there. We continue receiving the spare parts and components required for these helicopters. A C-130 airplane has arrived in our country without any precondition or veto by either of the two branches of the U.S. Congress. [end recording]

The defense minister pointed out that he has been visiting the United States for 30 years, and that he can say for sure that he does not yet know that country; and that, persons who went there a couple of times are not in a position to talk, saying they know U.S. beliefs and its way of implementing laws.

Comments on Exporting Rocket

PY0910213391 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 3 Oct 91 p C 2

[Report by special correspondent Ester Levinsky]

[Excerpts] London—Defense Minister Patricio Rojas confirmed that Chile is studying the possibility of exporting the Lightning rocket, a project that is currently being developed jointly with Great Britain.

The defense minister is on an official visit to Great Britain. Tomorrow he will visit the Royal Ordnance Company, one of the main British arms manufacturers.

During a news conference for British journalists, Rojas made it clear that, during his stay in this country, he will learn how the Lightning rocket project is progressing.

Rojas added that one of the objectives of this program is "not just to test this rocket for our Armed Forces, but to place it at the disposal of other countries."

Rojas said, in perfect English, that it is a conventional, defensive rocket. He said: "It does not use any type of remote-control mechanisms and it carries a conventional warhead with a range of not more than 35 km."

The design of the Lightning belongs to the Royal Ordnance Company and the project to manufacture the rocket jointly with Chile was signed during the military government.

In London, the Chilean minister said that his government has maintained this project and that the rocket will finally be produced in Chile. [passage omitted]

Nevertheless, the defense minister commented that Chile does not intend to export to Latin America alone. He said that talks have already been held with some other nations.

Rojas said: "We have talked to some prospective customers, but I do not believe it is appropriate to mention details of future agreements at this time."

During the past few hours, Rojas held various meetings with high-ranking British Defense Ministry officials, including Defense Minister Alan Clark.

The British secretary of state emphasized, in his own words, the longstanding friendly ties with Chile.

Group Issuing Forged Passports, Visas Arrested

PY1010194091 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] International police officials have discovered an organization engaged in issuing forged passports and visas. Visas were sold for $1,500 each to people interested in traveling to the United States.

The organization was discovered when the passport of a person entering the country was carefully examined.

The detainees involved in this crime were identified as Guillermo Gianotti; Carlos Zamorano; Patricio Luis Araya; and Marcelo Adolfo Contreras of Ecuadoran nationality.

The police discovered that, aware of the large number of people who wanted an entry visa to the United States, Gianotti devised a method to forge Chilean and foreign

passports. To do this, Gianotti contacted Zamorano, who was in charge of obtaining documents stamped with the original seal that had to be forged.

New Industrial Property Law Implemented

PY0410195391 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Text] Economy Under Secretary Jorge Marshall said that the new industrial property law is an effective tool of our economic policy. He said this during a ceremony at which the new law was promulgated. The new law replaces Decree 958 that was in effect for more than 60 years.

Marshall noted that during this period of time, activities governed by these legal rules—such as commerce, industry, and other activities—have experienced radical changes.

Chile has also joined the 1883 Paris Agreement on intellectual property rights [date and name of agreement as heard] to which more than 100 countries have adhered.

This will benefit foreign entrepreneurs who will see their products protected, and [Chilean] industrialists who want protection in other countries.

Charges Against Teachers Union Leaders Dropped

PY1010204291 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Report by Veronica Franco]

[Text] The government has dropped the charges against union leaders from the teachers association and the National Federation of Health Workers, Fenats. This information was disclosed by Interior Minister Enrique Krauss, noting that this decision was made because the union leaders have expressed their respect for the state of law and their willingness to hold talks.

[Begin Krauss recording, in progress] ...to the concrete circumstance that the Fenats union leaders are talking with the acting health minister, and the teachers association union leaders have met with the education minister. Consequently, in our opinion, this the most appropriate way. They are engaged in resolving pending situations.

I have ordered that the charges against Fenats and the teachers association be dropped in keeping with the powers invested in the interior minister in accordance with the 17th letter [of the Spanish alphabet] of Article 27 of the Security Law. [end recording]

The interior minister noted that the same procedure will be used with the union leaders of the National Transport Federation of Chile who were indicted by the metropolitan intendant's office.

[Begin Krauss recording] We have also issued instructions to the Santiago intendant—using the same powers—to drop the charges against the Fenatrach union leaders because we believe that all labor sectors must receive equal treatment and trust that this type of situation will not happen in the future. [end recording]

Minister Krauss noted that no conditions were established for the workers or their union leaders in dropping the charges. He added that this decision does not reflect a lack of seriousness on the part of the government, but involves exercising a power established by the state security law, and which allows the interior minister and the intendants to drop this type of legal action.

Unemployment, Inflation Rates Reported

PY1010185091 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 3 Oct 91 pp A1, A12

[Summary] Reportedly, the unemployment rate increased to 7.5 percent nationwide and to 8.4 percent in the metropolitan region during the June-August period. In the same period last year, the nationwide unemployment rate stood at 6.7 percent.

In addition, the September inflation rate totaled 1.3 percent, and the 1991 accumulated inflation rate now totals 18.8 percent.

Colombia

Guerrillas Propose Bilateral Cease-Fire

PA1010140991 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1110 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota, 9 Oct (NOTIMEX)—The Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board (CNGSB) has proposed to the government a bilateral cease-fire and the negotiation of the rebels' demobilization.

The initiative was delivered to Colombian President Cesar Gaviria Trujillo by former Liberal President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen, who met with guerrilla representatives in Caracas on 6 October. Michelsen traveled to Caracas on his own initiative after the government suspended the talks with the guerrillas on 30 September. According to Michelsen, the rebels expressed their desire to join civilian life under the same terms as the 19 April Movement (M-19).

The CNGSB spokesmen said that they would agree to divide the negotiations into two phases. The first one would be a cease-fire, and the second would be establishing the terms for their demobilization, Michelsen said.

He added that the process would be similar to the one implemented in 1989 between the government and the M-19, the first guerrilla group that joined civilian life in the country.

The rebels said that their political line was not interfering with the electoral process taking place in Colombia to renew the congress, which was dissolved in July by the National Constituent Assembly.

Michelsen said that during his meeting with the rebels in Caracas, they stressed the need to conduct an in-depth investigation into the attack on former Congress President Aurelio Iragorri in order to clarify its origin.

Following the attack, which occurred in the southwestern Cauca Department, the government blamed the CNGSB and suspended the peace talks.

Michelsen said that there is a struggle within the CNGSB "between the pacifists and warmongers." He added that the latter are reportedly "resorting to any means to sabotage the negotiations."

The attack on Iragorri was reportedly perpetated by a column of the Army of National Liberation (ELN), which disagrees with a political solution to the armed conflict.

Michelsen said: "The terrorist actions of the guerrillas contradict the position of the negotiators."

Cease-Fire Must Be Bilateral

PA1010141591 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0006 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Caracas, 9 Oct (EFE)— The Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board (CNGSB) said on 9 October that in view of the upcoming 27 October legislative elections in Colombia, any cease-fire must be bilateral and must uphold its proposal to reach an agreement with the government before 20 October.

Ivan Marquez, member of the CNGSB delegation that is currently in Caracas, said that the guerrillas will not declare a unilateral cease-fire. He denied having any knowledge of any of its fronts announcing an independent truce.

Marquez regretted the fact that President Cesar Gaviria's government has intensified the bombings and attacks on centers of operation of groups belonging to the CNGSB. He stressed that such an attitude does not contribute to creating the climate of peace that all Colombians want.

The CNGSB, which has been holding peace talks with the Colombian government in Caracas since 3 June, includes the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and the Army of National Liberation (ELN).

Marquez said that, in any event, he ratifies what former President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen said, in the sense that the CNGSB has not interfered and will not interfere in the electoral campaign. In addition, it is not responsible for the attack on former Congress President Aurelio Iragorri, which caused the suspension of the peace talks.

Michelsen met with CNGSB representatives in Caracas over the past weekend. He confirmed the guerrillas' goodwill to find a solution to end more than 40 years of war in Colombia.

Marquez said that, in general terms, what Michelsen said upon returning to Santa Fe de Bogota was correct, although some of his remarks were not in line with what they discussed in Caracas.

Marquez referred to the CNGSB cease-fire proposal, clarifying what Michelsen said in the sense that there could be two phases: one consisting of a verifiable bilateral cease-fire of armed actions, and another phase for the delimitation of demilitarized areas and the definition of aspects that will lead to the end of the struggle.

Marquez added that the current stagnation of the peace talks makes it necessary for the Advisory Commission on Public Order (CAOP) to play a more active role.

The CAOP, made up of representatives from the main Colombian political parties, managed two weeks ago to unblock the talks and to open new avenues for the resumption of the dialogue. This was before President Gaviria decided to suspend the talks again, an action the CNGSB described as "hasty."

Marquez asked the government to be coherent in its decisions. He stressed that if it is not willing to reach a cease-fire before 20 October, it should stop proclaiming to the Colombian public that it wants and seeks peace.

Marquez added that a cease-fire is feasible, and that it is up to President Gaviria's government to make it a reality.

He recalled that both the CAOP and Michelsen have confirmed that the CNGSB's desire to reach an agreement are real. He urged the government representatives to return to the negotiating table, because that is the what the people of Colombia want.

Pledges Against Civilian Violence Sought

PA1110035191 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Report by Raul Gutierrez]

[Text] On its own initiative, the public order advisory commission will travel to Caracas, Venezuela to seek a guerrilla pledge condemning terrorist actions and agreeing to suspend their attacks on the civilian population.

If this requirement demanded by the government is fulfilled, the talks would resume before the 27 October elections.

The members of the commission will seek the necessary conditions demanded by the government to return to the negotiating table so that a cease-fire can be agreed upon. The government wants the FARC [Revolutionary

Armed Forces of Colombia] and the ELN [National Liberation Army] to suspend their attacks on the civilian population.

[Begin recording of Government Minister Humberto de la Calle Lombana] What the government is saying is that to conduct dialogue with the guerrillas, it is necessary for us to be certain, with clear guarantees, that the guerrillas will suspend all types of attacks on the civilian population. The suspension should include the immediate order on all fronts to suspend attacks so that incidents like these are not repeated. [end recording]

It is clear that the guerrillas are not being asked to call a cease-fire. This means that actions by the military and by the guerrillas should be expected to continue while the participants in the Caracas talks sign a cease-fire agreement.

Special Antidrug-Trafficking Commission Formed

PA1110024391 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] On 8 October the government confirmed an antidrug-trafficking commission had been formed in Medellin to combat illegal activities in Colombia.

According to Fernando Brito, director of the Administrative Department of Security, DAS, several agencies have joined forces to detect criminals who have infiltrated financial institutions with money obtained by drug trafficking.

This new organization, which will begin operating soon, will be dedicated to gathering information and carrying out intelligence work to detect illegal activities and arrest white collar criminals.

The commission will be another method of attacking drug trafficking in economic and financial institutions. The Police and Army will concentrate on fighting common crime, while specially trained personnel will handle drug-trafficking crimes.

[Begin Brito recording] The commission will include officials from the Bank of the Republic; Superintendency of Foreign Exchange Control; Superintendency of Banks; Tax Revenue Administration; Customs; and DAS officials trained to handle this type of crime. [end recording]

Flores Says Former Rebels Support Militia

PA1010204791 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] Several political and former rebel groups have rejected charges made by Omar Flores Velez, the mayor of Medellin, who says that these groups support the so-called people's militia. The mayor, far from recanting as he was expected to do, reiterated his accusations. He charged that the Patriotic Unity, M-19 Democratic Alliance, and the Hope, Peace, and Freedom Movement actively participate in the people's militias that operate in Medellin.

[Begin Flores recording] We have evidence that leads us to alert the community. These organizations should clarify for the government whether or not they are behind these movements. Between 20 and 30 workers at public institutions have been threatened. The militias have attacked contractors of the Medellin public institutions. We cannot overlook these things. [end recording]

The organizations rejected the charges. They said that they will file suit against the mayor.

Roundup of Guerrilla Activities 25 Sep-7 Oct

PA1010180391

[Editorial Report] Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish on 25 September, carries a 75-word report on page 12-A on the Quimbaya Counter Guerrilla Battalion dismantling a FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] guerrilla camp in Mesetas, Meta Department. The 9th Brigade killed one guerrilla and seized a large amount of war materiel during operations in the community of Huila.

Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish on 30 September prints on page 10-A a 300-word report noting that two soldiers and five guerrillas were killed during a clash between army troops and an Army of National Liberation column in Arauca. According to the Colonel Augusto Bejarano Bernal, the military zone commander, the soldiers died when the guerrillas detonated five mines as a military truck carrying 20 soldiers drove by.

Santa Fe de Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish at 1200 GMT on 30 September broadcasts a two-minute report on the army command announcing that five subversives belonging to the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board were killed during clashes that took place in Santander and Bolivar. The report also states that two guerrillas who were captured had been seriously wounded.

Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish on 1 October carries on page 8-A a 150-word report on former Army Major Rene Montenegro, the head of security for Esso Corporation in Bucaramanga, who was gunned down by four unidentified men on 30 September in Bucaramanga. According to police reports, the four men were allegedly FARC members.

Santa Fe de Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish at 1730 GMT on 3 October broadcasts a one-minute report on the Armed Forces announcement that Lieutenant Omar Alonso Rodriguez, who was kidnapped on 1 October, was killed by members of the FARC 32d Front. The lieutenant's body was found in the municipality of Villa Garzon, Putumayo.

Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish at 1730 GMT on 7 October broadcasts a one-minute report noting that five persons were killed in the municipality of Timbiqui, Cauca.

Paraguay

Economic Discrepencies Hinder IMF Negotiations

PY1010182791 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 7 Oct 91 p 12

[Text] Paraguay will not sign a letter of intent with the IMF because there is disagreement over some economic topics like inflation. Paraguayan Central Bank President [BCP] Jose Enrique Paez said this morning that the IMF is demanding a lower inflation rate than the 12 to 15 percent that will be registered in Paraguay this year.

Paez met this morning with President Andres Rodriguez, whom he briefed on his activities in Santiago de Chile, and on the upcoming opening of a Netherlands bank [not further specified] branch in Asuncion. The bank will operate with a minimum capital of 4.5 billion guaranies.

Asked whether the bases and conditions for signing a letter of intent with the IMF have already been established, Paez said that no bases have yet been set although talks with IMF officials are now underway.

"The IMF insists that inflation should steadily drop, if possible to zero. The IMF is demanding an inflation rate much lower than the one we expect to register this year, which is about 14 percent," he said.

Paez said that if measures are enforced to reach the inflation rate demanded by the IMF, several problems will arise which will affect the productive system and the people at large. "If measures are enacted to reduce inflation even further, the amount of money for productive sectors will have to be reduced. This would also affect interest rates and credits, international reserves, all of which are factors that promote the growth of the economy," he said.

Paez said: "We believe that the IMF proposal should match our circumstances and the requirements of our productive sectors, particularly for the rural sector."

He added: "The effort made by the government through a restrictive policy and monetary austerity during 1991 has had an economic cost and the rural productive sector has suffered because of credit restrictions. This situation also involves the public sector, which should adapt itself to the restrictions stemming from the targets that have been established. If further restrictions are imposed to bring inflation below 15 percent and economic growth above 3 percent, the people will feel the economic and financial effects and employment rates will suffer."

He added that the country now requires greater flexibility to manage the economy in a reasonable manner and at a lower cost.

Italian Officials Seek Stronger Relations

PY1010201591 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish 10 Oct 91 p 12

[Text] Foreign Minister Alexis Frutos Vaesken and Bruno Bottai, the Italian Foreign Ministry secretary general, have discussed ways to increase cooperation at all levels and to strengthen bilateral ties through the European Community (EC).

These issues were discussed during a working meeting held at the foreign minister's office that lasted more than an hour. Also present at the meeting were Foreign Ministry Under Secretaries Hugo Saguier Caballero and Oscar Cabello Sarubbi; Foreign Ministry Director General Manuel Maria Caceres Cardozo; and Italian Ambassador to Paraguay Sergio Grimaldi.

Bottai later answered journalists' questions by stating: "We hail Paraguay's modernization with great pleasure." He added that Italian-Paraguayan ties were at a very low level for many years because of political and economic reasons." [no opening quotation marks as published]

Bottai stated: "Both Italy and the EC are now willing to help Paraguay because it has made the courageous decision to modernize itself within the framework of democracy."

It was within this context that the Italian and Paraguayan officials reviewed international and bilateral issues. They discussed Haiti, Yugoslavia, Cuba, etc. Regarding bilateral issues, they discussed the imminent negotiations that seek agreements on judicial cooperation (extradition)—a group of lawyers will visit Paraguay to this effect—and the safeguard of investments. A plan on this subject will soon be submitted to the Italian Government through the Paraguayan Embassy in Rome.

The "Gramont-Rosi" case, which involves the Export Credit Insurance Agency (SACE) and "Andres Barbero" was also discussed. This case involves property in San Estanislao (San Pedro Department) that was donated by the late philanthropist Andres Barbero [Italian philanthropist who immigrated to Paraguay]. This case was discussed in greater detail during Bottai's meeting with Agriculture Minister Raul Torres Segovia and Industry Minister Ubaldo Scavone, who is acting finance minister.

Bottai and Under Secretary Cabello Sarubbi stated that both these problems will be solved without harming Italian-Paraguayan ties, especially bilateral economic ties.

Peru

Fujimori on Achievements, Reconstruction Process

PY1010180591 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0344 GMT 6 Oct 91

[Text] Lima, 6 Oct (ANDINA)—President Alberto Fujimori termed tonight satisfactory the government's achievements in reintroducing the country into the international financial community, adding that this encourages the government to continue the reconstruction process.

Fujimori mentioned the significant reduction of the inflation rate and said that economic indicators will be even more encouraging in the next few months. He added that the improving dollar exchange rate will benefit the exporting sector. This includes the mining sector which generates a significant amount of foreign currency.

During a televised interview, the chief of state addressed the problem of subversion, noting that the government's strategy to handle the problem successfully has changed. He says that the new strategy consists of a greater participation of the Armed and Police Forces in support of organized populations.

He said that the entire civilian population should participate in the government's struggle against terrorism.

As an example, he mentioned the developments of the past few weeks in the Huaycan, Raucana, and Horacio Zevallos shantytowns, as well as in Satipo and Puquio, "where the support of the people and the community to the government and the Armed Forces" has been decisive in squashing subversion.

Fujimori confirmed that any abuses that may have been perpetrated by members of the security forces will be punished with severe and exemplary sanctions for those found guilty, although he said that one must not generalize because among the 70,000 policemen there are many efficient and dedicated officers.

He mentioned that the police reorganization process foresees increasing the training period for new personnel from six months to two years, thus allowing better, more technical and professional training.

Regarding the latest charges of corruption and other types of crimes against high-ranking officials of the previous government, Fujimori said that although it is true that moralization was one of his government's goals, "it is harmful to prejudge any trial that is underway."

The chief of state said: "I believe the country wants the moralization process to be fully implemented," but left it up to Congress and to the legal and judicial authorities to have the last say in the matter.

Resumption of Talks With Ecuador Announced

PY1010191191 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1843 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Lima, 10 Oct (ANDINA)—Foreign Minister Carlos Torres y Torres Lara, announced today the resumption of diplomatic talks with Ecuador and said that the tension on the northern border has been considerably reduced because "we are holding diplomatic talks."

He said that the talks "regrettably were interrupted, but we have arrived at this new point where we can find a solution or the means to solve the issue through diplomacy."

Torres y Torres appealed to "both Peruvians and Ecuadoreans to keep the solution within the corresponding diplomatic terms."

The foreign minister said this after meeting with President Alberto Fujimori at Government House, with whom he analyzed the progress attained in relations with Ecuador. He stressed that he has found "in the two foreign ministries the best disposition to negotiate and peacefully solve the problems."

"The Peruvian position is fully known and I will not repeat it to avoid stirring spirits. We Peruvians know what we want and what our rights are," he said.

Progress Expected

PA1010131391 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Foreign Minister Carlos Torres y Torres did not want to expand on the Ecuadoran case. He said, however, that significant progress will be achieved in a few days in order to bring detente to the border. He added that relations between our country and Ecuador are headed toward normalization.

[Begin recording] [Torres y Torres] I can tell you that in a few days we will have important news on the matter.

[Reporter] Will there be a meeting with the guarantor countries?

[Torres y Torres] The northern region is returning to normal, and we will have news in a few days.

[Reporter] Are relations with Ecuador better?

[Torres y Torres] We will soon make further statements.

[Reporter] What work is the Foreign Ministry doing to reach a positive agreement?

[Torres y Torres] We are on the right track. I do not want to make specific remarks on the matter right now, but I can tell you that in the days to come we will have important news. [end recording]

Ecuadoran Stance Rejected

PY1010140891 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0233 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Lima, 9 Oct (ANDINA)—During a secret session that began half an hour ago, the Chamber of Deputies approved a multiparty motion supporting the government and rejecting the Ecuadoran claim of disregarding the Rio de Janeiro Protocol, which has been in effect since 1942.

The multiparty motion was signed by Popular Action, APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance], and United Left deputies, and was supported by all political parties, stressing that Torres y Torres, Council of Ministers president and foreign minister, has emphasized Peru's position on this issue.

The Chamber of Deputies is discussing a bill in which the executive branch is asking the Congress of the Republic to extend its legislative powers on tax and fiscal matters up to the end of the month.

Government Implements Radical Austerity Program

PY1010205991 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2214 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Text] Lima, 5 Oct (ANDINA)—Seeking to control treasury resources under an extreme austerity program, the government has, among other measures, forbidden the hiring of public administration personnel, and prohibited the leasing of buildings for administrative offices and the granting of subventions, overtime payments, etc.

This guideline is included in Resolution No. 026-91-Conade [National Corporation for Development], which is published today on the official gazette EL PERUANO.

It states that the fundamental objective of this measure "is to effectively use the resources of state enterprises and corporations within a policy of austerity."

The provisions of the resolution state that vacancies that result from the program for voluntary retirement of personnel, promotions, or layoffs, will be filled through reinstatements, promotions, or rotation of personnel.

It is hereby forbidden to contract personnel in any way or by any method, or to create, modify, or reclassify posts vacated prior to 28 June 1991.

It is also forbidden to make payments in foreign currency to residents for services rendered to the country; or to increase salaries and/or fringe benefits regardless of the name, system, method, or periodicity.

It is hereby forbidden to make overtime payments, except for those related to productive activities.

Concerning goods and services, it is forbidden to sign new contracts for non-personal services with individuals under any form or method.

It is forbidden to contract or pay in foreign currency for professional services contracted by legally recognized corporations residing in the country.

It is also forbidden to lease buildings for public administration offices or for social events, or to grant direct or indirect subventions to individuals or corporations.

It is hereby forbidden to contract any publicity intended to highlight or promote personal images, or to incur costs for clothing, sports material, household goods, tools, badges, decorations, official receptions, celebrations, data processing services, or security services.

Exceptions

Exempted from this resolution are investment programs. The pertinent companies in charge of those programs will be able to sign new fixed-term working contracts necessary for investment projects provided they are used to create or augment the production of necessary goods and services.

The hiring by Conade of presidents of the board of directors of enterprises has also been exempted from this resolution.

Bolivian Minister Advocates Andean Integration

PY1010152891 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2143 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Lima, 8 Oct (ANDINA)—Bolivian Industry Minister Leopoldo Lopez said today that Andean governments should promote free trade in order to reach true integration among Andean countries.

Lopez made this statement upon arriving in our country, where he will hold a working meeting with his Peruvian counterpart, Victor Joy Wa; he will ask Peru to open its market to Bolivian farm products, thus avoiding obstacles to the integration process.

He explained that four months ago, in order to preserve the interests of its farmers, Peru closed the local market to Bolivian products such as meat, sugar, soybean oil, lumber, and others. This policy has harmed Bolivia.

Lopez said that considering that Bolivia has granted several guaranteed preferences that opened the Bolivian market to Peruvian products, his country would like to return to the old system of concessions granted within the Andean Pact.

"In addition, the Andean Pact has issued two resolutions noting that Peru should not enforce such a policy because it violates the pact," he said.

Lopez will stay in Lima this evening, and tomorrow he will leave for Caracas to attend a meeting sponsored by the Latin American Economic System.

Colombian Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit

PY0810232091 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1647 GMT 7 Oct 91

[Text] Lima, 7 Oct (ANDINA)—Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Pardo [name and title as received—Luis Fernando Jaramillo is listed as the Colombian foreign minister] arrived today in Lima on an official four-day visit. During his stay, he will hold a series of bilateral negotiations within the framework of excellent bilateral ties.

Pardo said that he and his Peruvian counterpart, Carlos Torres y Torres Lara, will exchange views and impressions on ideas that will allow Peru and Colombia to continue having excellent ties.

He added: "We will review bilateral issues and all common problems. We also will discuss some international issues."

Pardo declined to comment on the situation with Ecuador because, he said, it is a very sensitive issue that cannot be discussed in public.

Moreover, Pardo, who was welcomed at Jorge Chavez Airport by Colombian Ambassador Jaime Gutierrez Plaza, said Peru and Colombia have great expectations for the Andean Initiative on the antinarcotics struggle, within the framework of which the U.S. Government is about to approve an agreement that will promote Colombian and Peruvian exports.

Soon after his arrival, Foreign Minister Pardo left for the Peruvian Foreign Ministry building. This afternoon he is scheduled to hold a news conference at the diplomatic academy.

Economy Minister Bolona Explains 1992 Budget

PY1010214891 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2250 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] Lima, 9 Oct (ANDINA)—Economy Minister Carlos Bolona Behr said today that the 1992 budget is conditioned on tax reform because the government will not collect 9.3 percent of the GDP [gross domestic production] if the present tax system is not modified.

Bolona said: "The executive branch proposal changing the income tax and property tax systems and the mechanism for inflation adjustment must be approved by the Special Economic Commission or the two chambers of Congress as soon as possible."

Bolona said that the tax code establishing penalties and sanctions for tax evaders also must be approved as soon as possible.

These two elements, and efficient administration, will allow the government to collect enough for a comfortable implementation of next year's budget, he said.

Bolona made these remarks during his testimony before the congressional Budget Committee. He was accompanied by Council of Ministers President Carlos Torres y Torres Lara. The two officials answered questions on the implementation of the 1992 budget.

Minister Torres y Torres mentioned the social emergency program. He said the program will be revitalized with local funds and international aid. "We will see the results in the coming months," he said.

Regarding gasoline price increases, Bolona said the rate of price increases will drop gradually, along with the inflation rate. Bolona said the government wants to stabilize the main economic agents to start a reactivation program.

The economy minister talked about government policies, emphasizing that the government will continue its austerity program in order "to save some cash" for future salary increases.

Bolona reiterated the importance of adequate tax collection because, he said, that will be the first step toward the reactivation that all groups are demanding.

The minister said it is also important to maintain key items, such as the exchange and interest rates, at optimum levels, adding that these indicators also will drop gradually and constantly.

Bolona stressed the importance of foreign investments, "which we must encourage and not scare off because there is strong competition for capital due to the disappearance of the socialist blocs."

The minister asked representatives of the various political parties to drop dogmatic positions according to which foreign capital or the reintegration into the international financial community affect our sovereignty. Bolona proposed an "intellectual decolonization" and "a nondevilish treatment" of the foreign investment issue.

Bolona said foreign capital is essential if we want to progress toward reactivation because Peru does not have money for big projects. "We have to be conscious that the government will not play the main role in our reactivation and we need foreign capital," the minister said.

Bolona explained the macroeconomic bases supporting the 1992 budget, pointing out a yearly 45 percent inflation rate as the most important element. Bolona said the inflation rate might be even lower if the government continues its austerity and spending control programs.

The minister also mentioned an average exchange rate of 1.35 new soles to the dollar, a GDP of 63 billion new soles, and an estimated 3.5 percent real growth for 1992 as budget goals.

Bolona said the social emergency program was a budget priority with $305 million in domestic contributions allocated to support the milk program, soup kitchens,

purchase of food for unprotected settlements, and medicines, emergency school food, and the creation of jobs.

Bolona added that the fund might increase when the support group releases its first contributions.

Declaration Signed on Environment, Sanitation

PY1010203691 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2353 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Excerpts] Lima, 5 Oct (ANDINA)—President Alberto Fujimori's administration and civilian society expressed today their solid commitment to strengthen the basic sanitary programs and environmental protection in keeping with the international agreements reached at the end of the century, and which includes the decision to fight the cholera epidemic in the Americas.

The document, known as the Lima Declaration, stresses that approximately $3 billion is needed to invest in sanitation and potable water systems in Peru during the current decade. This represents a yearly investment 10.6 times higher than that made during the last decade.

The document states that basic sanitation programs should be jointly implemented with actions to prevent damage to the environment as a result of the development and prevent health risks for current and future generations.

The government and civilian society will implement joint solidarity projects designed to carry out rational control of natural resources, especially the air, water, soil, and subsoil, in order to assure the well-being and quality of life for current and future generations.

They also will promote studies on epidemiology, toxicology, and on the environment and health impacts that can lead to the search for financing and implementation of projects that can minimize the health risks caused by development. [passage omitted]

The Lima Declaration was signed by Health Minister Victor Yamamoto; Housing and Construction Minister Guillermo del Solar Rojas; and representatives of several social assistance and health organizations.

Roundup of Terrorist Activities 28-30 Sep

PY1010185691

[Editorial Report] Following are reports on terrorist activities in Peru compiled from Peruvian papers published between 28 and 30 September. Publication information is given in parentheses after each item.

On 27 September, police arrested six members of a Shining Path annihilation cell who on 7 June murdered David William Diaz Hinostroza, manager of the textile factory La Union. The terrorists were arrested in a house in Los Olivos District while planning new terrorist attacks. (Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 28 Sep 91 p A9)

A Centro railway enterprise train derailed as a result of an attack by a subversive commando that bombed the tracks near the township of San Mateo. The explosion, which occurred on the night of 27 September, caused damage but no casualties. (Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 28 Sep 91 p A9)

Seven peasant defense patrol members died on 27 September in Tapuna township during a clash with Shining Path terrorists. A few hours later, the same terrorist group killed two soldiers in an ambush near Ocano village, in the Tapuna area, San Miguel Province. (Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 28 Sep 91 p 26)

Two armed terrorists murdered a couple who managed a store that rented wheelbarrows in La Victoria District in Lima. The criminals escaped. (Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 30 Sep 91 p A12)

ANDINA To Dedicate Cusco Branch in November

PY1010184091 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1838 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Summary] Lima, 5 Oct (ANDINA)—Andina Satellite, the technological project of the official news agency ANDINA, will dedicate its Cusco branch in a month. The project—which includes modern technologies such as facsimile, parabolic antennae, and special computing equipment—went into operation in July, when it covered the national independence ceremonies for Peru and foreign countries. To be able to do that, ANDINA installed very modern parabolic antennae at its headquarters and Congress.

Later, it opened branches with similar antennae and a direct dialing system, such as the one installed in the Trujillo and Arequipa branches.

Hydrocarbons Tariffs Commission Increases Prices

PY1010230191 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1713 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Summary] Lima, 8 Oct (ANDINA)—The National Hydrocarbons Tariffs Commission has increased the price of 84 octane gasoline to 1.93 new soles [unit measure not given]; 94 octane gasoline to 2.63 new soles; kerosene to 0.93 new soles; the 24 pound bottle of natural gas to 5.40 new soles and the 100 pound bottle to 22.60 new soles.

Communist Party Official Suffers Brain Damage

PY1010224791 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 27 Sep 91 p 9

[Summary] The political committee of the PCP [Communist Party of Peru] has issued a communique in which it reports that yesterday Secretary General Jorge del Prado sustained minor brain damage. The communique states that Del Prado is recovering satisfactorily in the intensive care unit of the Rebagliati Hospital.

Uruguay

Inflation Rate, Currency Devaluation Gap Viewed

PY0910201191 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0712 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Report by Alberto Pepe Leira]

[Text] Montevideo, 8 Oct (EFE)—According to economic and financial sources, Uruguayan exports are "on the verge of a crisis" because internal inflation is presently greater than the devaluation of the currency, and many companies have ceased to be profitable.

It is feared that the situation could become worse in the next tourism season and cause further unemployment in large industrial sectors.

Speaking to the media, Uruguayan Exporters Union president Carlos Langwagen warned the government that urgent measures should be adopted to ensure that "the gap between the inflation rate and currency devaluation does not increase."

Inflation in the past 12 months has totaled 106 percent.

Monetary devaluation last September stands at 3.93 percent, while inflation was 6.6 percent.

Langwagen said: "The situation will be exacerbated by the next tourism season, which is expected to be exceptional."

The arrival of tourists will push up prices given the greater demand for goods while the dollar exchange rate will drop as consequence of an excess of dollars.

According to BUSQUEDA, a specialized economic weekly, when the tourists arrive "dollars will become abundant and the exchange rate will consequently drop."

BUSQUEDA adds that currency exchange operators have confirmed the warning made by the exporters. They estimate that the increased level of dollars on the market and the greater demand for goods will accelerate inflation in Uruguay and will contribute to enlarge the gap between the consumers price index and the dollar exchange rate.

Summer in the southern hemisphere begins in December and thousands of Argentine, Brazilian, Paraguayan, and Chilean tourists will visit Uruguayan beaches.

Tourism Minister Jose Villar has reported that a record 850,000 tourists visited Uruguay in 1991. This shows how important off-season tourism, which until now was not considered significant, has become in Uruguay.

Langwagen said that several government decisions to increase fiscal pressure on industrialists are exacerbating the gap between the inflation and devaluation rates.

He said that company profit margins have dropped and mentioned the case of milk producers whose profit margins dropped by 35 percent between 1985 and 1991.

Uruguayan exporters believe that the solution lies in "reducing the gap between the inflation rate and the currency devaluation rate and, given the existing critical situation, more financing should be granted" to the productive sectors.

The situation is even more important if we consider the short time left before the Common Market of the South [Mercosur] becomes operational among Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay.

Langwagen said: "We should carefully think about increasing our exports, especially those that require a lot of labor to solve the unemployment problem."

The latest official statistics show the unemployment rate in Uruguay to be 9.12 percent. This is an increase on the 8.37 percent registered last January.

Creation of Fish Market Cartel Proposed

PY0910233791 Montevideo BUSQUEDA in Spanish 19 Sep 91 p 41

[Excerpts] Uruguay has officially proposed the creation of a cartel of fish-exporting countries—similar to the way the Cairns Group operates in agriculture—to present a joint front to combat actions that seek to exchange access to the markets of developed countries for the opening of the over-exploited fishing zones.

Agriculture and Fishing Minister Alvaro Ramos made the invitation during the "Second Conference of Fishery Ministers," which was held in Pontevedra, Galicia.

Minister Ramos focused his proposal on two concerns: to preserve, during the medium and long term, the fishing resources that are at their maximum level of exploitation, and—in the short term—"to reject the initiatives of those who seek to trade off access to consumer markets for fishing resources." [passage omitted]

Diplomatic sources have reported to BUSQUEDA that the Uruguayan proposal was announced after consultation with Argentine, Brazilian, and Chilean officials "who are also concerned about depredation and the situation of the importing markets."

The proposal was officially made through a declaration by Minister Ramos and Uruguayan Foreign Minister Hector Gross Espiell on 27 November 1990. [date as published]

The idea of summoning coastal countries "as a starting point for this process of convergence" was outlined in the "Declaration on the Preservation of Fishing Resources in the Southwestern Atlantic Ocean Region."

It has been reported that the proposal will be extended to the countries of the Pacific Ocean whose fishing areas are suffering similar depredation processes.

INAC Reports Beef Export Figures; Drop Shown

PY1010004291 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0022 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Summary] Montevideo, 28 Sep (EFE)—According to the National Meat Institute [INAC], Uruguayan beef exports dropped 35.83 percent between January 1991 and last 22 September. According to INAC records, Uruguay sold 150,386 tons of beef in 1990, while so far this year it has shipped 96,493 tons abroad. The EEC buys 26 percent of Uruguay's beef, Israel 22 percent, and Brazil, which up to last year was the top buyer, now only imports 17 percent.